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Saipan Tribune

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$180K needed to repair collapsed CUC sewer system. **PAGE 3**

50 years later, brothers journey to childhood paradise. **PAGE 7**

Over 50 join search for Jim Bell

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The second day of search and rescue operations yesterday failed to locate the missing 72-year-old swimmer Jim Bell.

Not including U.S. Coast Guard officers, a total of 55 local responders participated in the aerial, land, and sea operations. A U.S. Coast Guard's helicopter helped five rescue boats and two jet skis in the search.

See OVER on Page 4

Jim Bell, 72, looks off into the horizon as he prepares for his swim near the Suicide Cliff on Tinian on Oct. 17. Bell remains missing. JANET H. KING

$12.46M rebate checks issued to 19,615 taxpayers

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Department of Finance has so far issued over $12.46 million in rebate and refund checks for 2008 since it started distribution in June.

Based on data from the of-

See REBATE on Page 4

YOUTH CONGRESS POLLS HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Min Hyung Kim, right, a 16-year-old student at Calvary Christian Academy, casts his vote in the 2009 Youth Congress elections, while Youth Congress coordinator Roslyn Leon Guerrero, left, looks on, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe yesterday afternoon. At least 2,480 registered for the polls and the counting of actual votes cast was set for last night on Capital Hill.

Fund faces $51.8 million shortfall this fiscal year

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund expects to incur a shortfall of $51.8 million this fiscal year if the government contribution rate continues at 16 percent, according to Fund administrator

See FUND on Page 4

US Customs executives on operational visit to Saipan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Seven top officials of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection will be arriving on Saipan Wednesday night for an "operational visit," barely

See CUSTOMS on Page 4

RELATED NEWS

- MVA upbeat about visitor entry transition extension. **PAGE 2**

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Do you support the local government's plan to issue two-year "umbrella permits" to alien workers with legal status in the CNMI?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

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PHASE 6

As of October 19, 2009

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Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

New Typhoon
Another typhoon threatens the Philippines after back-to-back storms killed more than 800 people.

ASIA...Page 16

Name Game
Yes, Stephen Colbert has had a water beetle named after him.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 18

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Local

MVA upbeat about visitor entry transition extension

The Marianas Visitors Authority is optimistic about U.S. H.R. 3770 introduced last week by U.S. Rep. Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU) to extend the transition period for the new CNMI visitor entry program.

The legislation, introduced on Oct. 8, amends the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 to give an additional one year of transition after the CNRA is enacted. Immigration now managed by the CNMI, including visitor entries to this resort destination, will become federal jurisdiction once the CNRA is enacted on Nov. 28, 2009.

The CNMI's tourism community has argued that the loss of visitors from the People's Republic of China and Russia will have a devastating effect on this fragile island economy in the western Pacific, which is driven by tourism largely from surrounding Asian countries.

In addition, the bill would require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report within 30 days on the economic situation in the CNMI and the effect of the CNRA amendments on the future economic situation of the Commonwealth

A related legislation, H.R. 3647, introduced by U.S. Rep Gregorio Kilili Sablan (D-MP) on Sept. 24, 2009, seeks to move the transition date to federal immigration to Dec. 1, 2010. H.R. 3647 further requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to report to Congress every 30 days on, among others, a fully detailed budget for fiscal years 2010 and 2011 to implement the CRNA, infrastructure plans, required "additional layered security measures" to include PRC and Russia in the visa waiver program, and a timetable for such inclusion.

"The Marianas Visitors Authority commends Delegate Bordallo for introducing this important amendment to the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "This, along with Delegate Sablan's legislation and the Department of Homeland Security's willingness to make special consideration for the China and Russian source countries, underline the precariousness nature of our tourism industry. We are very appreciative of DHS' and everyone's efforts and urge to find a permanent solution for the inclusion of these two emerging markets in the Guam/CNMI visa waiver program and in the spirit of the statutory intent of the CNRA of 2008."

H.R. 3770 also provides for the Secretary of Homeland Security to administer the visitor entry program of the CNMI consistent with the provisions of Commonwealth law governing the program during the one-year transition period.

U.S. H.R. 3770 is co-sponsored by Donna Christensen (D-VI), Eni Faleomavaega (D-AS), Dan Boren (D-OK), Henry Brown (R-SC), Henry Johnson (D-GA), Pedro Pierluisi (D-PR), and Addison Wilson (R-SC). Bordallo, Brown, Christensen, and Faleomavaega all visited the CNMI on a fact-finding trip earlier this year.

The bill was referred to the House Committees on Natural Resources and Judiciary. ***(MVA)***

CPA approves URC's 15-year lease extension, 3 other proposals

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has approved four proposals submitted by Universal Rental Corp., including a 15-year lease extension being requested by the Saipan International Airport tenant.

The CPA board green-lighted the four proposals on Friday, exactly a week after it rejected two of URC's four proposals.

Originally approved were the company's proposal to sublease contracts with other firms and a waiver on the 25 percent lease fee applicable until its default is paid in full to CPA.

With the endorsement of board member Benigno Sablan, CPA then overturned its original decision to reject URC owner Joaquin Manglona's proposal for a 15-year lease extension of the property it leases from CPA and additional parking spaces at the airport site.

Saipan Tribune learned that Manglona's company had defaulted on $44,000 in payments owed CPA.

URC pays CPA $3,628 monthly and its existing lease agreement will expire 2014.

During Friday's special meeting, only board member Thomas Villagomez opposed the proposal to approve all proposals submitted by Manglona's company. The rest—chairman Jose Lifoifoi, Benigno Sablan, Manny Villagomez, Barrie Toves, Margarita Prater, and Fermin Sakisat—voted for its adoption.

During the discussion, Thomas Villagomez pointed out that CPA stands to lose over $10,000 yearly if the 25 percent waiver is granted to URC—a minimum loss of $54,000 in five years' time.

Villagomez believes that waiving the fee contradicts CPA's efforts to generate revenues and enhance collections.

The agency's collection attorney, Robert Torres, reminded the board of the possible impact of the decision on its airport indenture agreement.

"If the trustees see that waiving 25 percent of the sublease will benefit CPA, then it's OK," he told board members Friday.

Of the proposals, Villagomez said he only supports subleasing the contract to other firms on the condition that it is not in conflict with the main lease between CPA and URC.

CPA was told that URC wants to sublease the property to the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Commerce, which both expressed interest in using a portion of the lease facility at the airport.

Manglona had entered into a lease with CPA in July 1989 for approximately 60,000 square feet of land within the airport area. As required by the lease, he built a large warehouse on the land.

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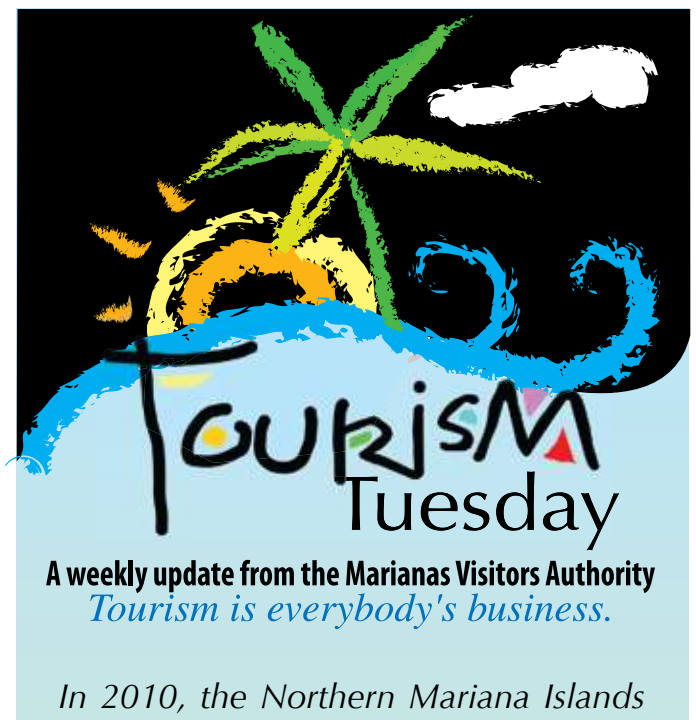

In 2010, the Northern Mariana Islands will be featured in "Global Trotters: Complete Travel Guide for Diving & Snorkeling." This 300+ page book provides information for beginning divers and will also feature tourist spots on Saipan.

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This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

$180K needed to repair collapsed CUC sewer system

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Three sewer collection systems of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. collapsed in the past three weeks and the utility needs at least $180,000 to repair them.

CUC assistant executive director Abe Malae disclosed that Saipan's sewer collection system collapsed in three spots in the last 21 days and each repair will cost CUC at least $60,000.

Malae said the collapse of the three sewer pipelines is just the tip of the iceberg, as the island's sewer system continues to break down bit by bit, eating away at CUC's operating budget.

Worse, he said, funding is not coming in fast enough and CUC needs at least two more engineers to help with the project and operation.

"The pipes are collapsing because the crown has thinned out over about 10 miles of pipeline," Malae explained.

Last week, there was also a leak on the sewer main at Lift Station 3 near CUC's oil terminals.

"This is tough repair work—the wastewater crews had to work long and hard to improvise a welded clamp. Unlike water, you cannot just run sewer overflow anywhere you want," he said.

The Agingan wastewater treatment plant, *Saipan Tribune* learned, also suffered a setback when the skimmer arm snapped off in the clarifier.

The plant is designed with no redundancy and the valves are located in inaccessible areas or there are no valves at all.

Malae estimates that CUC needs at least three years to turn around the utility in terms of improving its operation.

"Heroic efforts were made in the last 16 months, especially in the area of power generation. You cannot follow the same thinking or use the same procedures or management style that got the utility into trouble in the first place," Malae said.

Water rationing

On the issue of water distribution, Malae admitted that CUC is still rationing water in several areas on Saipan due to the poor condition of Saipan's water and wastewater system. These include areas below Navy Hill, Agkag, and parts of Garapan.

On the west side of Capital Hill, CUC also has to ration water, not because it is short of supply but because the main lines are leaking like a sieve, Malae said.

"If we were to pressurize the system 24/7 we would just be pumping water into the ground," he told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the island's water and wastewater systems need immediate help.

Malae has only one solution to these issues: replace everything to ensure the smooth flow of water.

"The solution—and the projects are on the drawing board with funding identified—is to abandon and replace these leaky pipes that have been there for at least 40 years," he said.

Malae said the Agkag side is being rationed because there is not enough water being produced by the area's two large wells.

Malae wants to get CUC's 72 water wells back on line and he expects the repair work to begin this month.

In the airport area, Malae disclosed that the 14-inch transmission water main line broke down several times this year.

"This is an unfortunate example of a water main that was not bedded properly nor inspected closely enough when it was installed over 10 years ago. The breaks are occurring where the pipe is sitting on rocks rather than gravel or sand," Malae said.

Tim's, Santos couple's motion for release under advisement

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson placed under advisement yesterday the renewed motion for release filed by former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez, James A. Santos, and Joaquina V. Santos.

In a hearing that lasted just 10 minutes, Munson said a written decision would follow. Munson held the hearing via telephone because he is in Idaho.

Lawyer Dennis Riordan, one of the counsel for Villagomez, argued on behalf of the defendants via telephone because he is in San Francisco, California. David J. Lujan, lead counsel for Villagomez, participated in the hearing also through telephone as he is in Guam.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley argued for the U.S. government. Also in the U.S. District Court were Villagomez's co-counsel Joey San Nicolas, James Santos' counsel Victorino DLG. Torres, and Joaquina Santos' counsel Ramon Quichocho.

Villagomez and the Santos couple re-filed their motion for release following the Ninth Circuit's decision issued on Sept. 18, 2009, that denied their motion for bail pending appeal.

The Ninth Circuit denied the defendants' motion because Munson has not yet issued a final order on the release issue.

In their motion to release, David Lujan argued that there is clear and convincing evidence that Villagomez and the Santos couple are neither a flight risk nor a danger to the community. Lujan also cited the existence of appellate issues that he said should be deemed "fairly debatable."

In the U.S. government's opposition, O'Malley argued that in this case, there was no evidence that the jurors actively withheld information or were even aware of the alleged relationships.

O'Malley said each juror in this case "stated under oath that they were able to take the evidence as it was presented and make an impartial decision based solely on the evidence before them."

Last Aug. 14, Villagomez withdrew his motion for release and instead filed an appeal with the Ninth Circuit.

Villagomez was taken last month to the Federal Correctional Institution in Phoenix, Arizona, to serve his seven-year-and-three-month sentence for his role in the Rydlyme corruption scandal.

Joaquina Villagomez-Santos is now at the Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin, California, where she is serving her six years and six months sentence for her participation in the same case.

Joaquina Santos' husband, James A. Santos, was brought to the United States Penitentiary-Victorville in Alelanto, California, to serve his six years and six months in prison for his involvement in the scheme to defraud the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the United States.

The three appealed their convictions and sentences to the Ninth Circuit.

2nd armed robbery suspect on Rota to enter guilty plea

The second suspect in two armed robberies at a poker arcade on Rota is expected to enter a guilty plea today in federal court.

Angel Barcinas Manglona and his lawyer, G. Anthony Long, have reached an agreement with the U.S. government.

Manglona, Long, and the prosecution represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney James Benedetto agreed to cancel the scheduled jury trial set on Oct. 13, 2009.

The parties asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold a change of plea hearing today, Tuesday.

Manglona was indicted with conspiracy to commit a Hobbs Act robbery, and Hobbs Act robbery.

According to the indictment, on July 15, 2008, through Aug. 4, 2008, Manglona and Wilbur Vic Masga Inos conspired to rob the Rota Poker in Songsong Village.

On July 15, 2008, Manglona allegedly supplied Inos with a Colt .223 caliber rifle. The defendant then drove Inos to the Rota Poker for the purpose of robbing the establishment.

Manglona waited outside the Rota Poker to help Inos get away from the crime scene.

On Aug. 4, 2008, Manglona again drove Inos to the Rota Poker for the purpose of robbing the establishment.

Inos then entered the establishment armed with a loaded Colt rifle that belonged to Manglona.

At the time, Manglona and Inos were both employees of the Rota Mayor's Office.

Inos already pleaded guilty to one count of use of a firearm in the commission of a violent crime. He was sentenced to seven years in prison. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Global Trotters diving guidebook to include CNMI

The annual *Global Trotters* guidebook reaching 50,000 divers and snorkelers in Japan will feature the tropical Northern Mariana Islands in its 2010 edition.

The NMI is expected to receive 12 full pages in the full-color book, which introduces diving spots around the world. The 300-plus page book provides information for beginning divers and also features tourist spots in each destination.

Global Trotters: Complete Travel Guide for Diving & Snorkeling sent a writer and cameraman to the Northern Marianas on Sept. 28-Oct. 4, 2009. Awarding-winning cavern dive Grotto will be featured, as well as boat dive favorites Ice Cream and Dimple. Some of the many shore dives of the islands will also be highlighted, including Wing, Paupau, Laulau and Obyan Beaches. The white sand shores and numerous water sports of Managaha Island were also covered by the editorial team.

Island accommodations at Hafadai Beach Hotel will be featured, as well as coverage of Mariana Resort & Spa and the Mandi Asian Spa. Nightlife options will be presented, including the Las Vegas-style SandCastle dinner show and downtown bar The Flair. The islands' international cuisine offerings were also covered by the editorial duo, with stops at Kinpachi Restaurant, Coffee Care, and Country House Restaurant.

"Due to our wonderful warm weather and high visibility, one of the most popular year round activities of Japanese visiting our islands is diving," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio. "We hope to capitalize on the proximity of our islands as we reach more divers in Japan through next year's *Global Trotters* edition."

The estimated exposure value for the Northern Marianas is $102,000. The familiarization tour was also supported by "I Love Saipan" Souvenir Mall at the Star Sands Plaza, Tasi Tours & Transportation Inc., and Marianas Sports Club, Inc. The publication has said it also intends to return in the future to feature Tinian and Rota. ***(MVA)***

CUSTOMS

From Page 1

five weeks before the Nov. 28 federal takeover of CNMI immigration.

DHS, along with its component agencies, is required to staff and equip six ports of entry in the CNMI by Nov. 28 as required by Public Law 110-229 or the federalization law.

The visiting federal officials are led by CBP Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Field Operations Thomas S. Winkowski, and CBP Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Information Technology Charles Armstrong.

Also visiting are David Morrell, executive director of the Office of Field Operations' Mission Support; Cheryl Peters, program manager of the Office of Field Operations; Richard Vigna, director of Field Operations in San Francisco; Bruce Murley, area port director in Honolulu, Hawaii; and Rocky Miner, port director in Guam.

Issues raised

While on Saipan, the federal team will be meeting with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, members of the 16th Legislature, and representatives of CNMI agencies, including the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Division of Immigration, and the CNMI Division of Customs Services.

"I welcome the visit of DHS officials and look forward to learning more about their plans to smoothly transition into federalization," Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said in a statement.

In a telephone interview yesterday, Senate President Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) said among the concerns he will raise with the federal team are the CNMI's continued access to Russian and Chinese tourists without requiring them to secure a U.S. visa, as well as any plan by DHS not to separate families, including non-U.S. citizens who are married to U.S. citizens or Federated States of Micronesia citizens.

House Foreign and Federal Relations Committee chair Rep. Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) said he will raise the yet-to-be-issued CNMI-only transitional worker program regulations, and the visa waiver program that excludes Chinese and Russian tourists.

"There are lots of uncertainties and concerns about federalization and we hope these visiting officials will clarify those for us," Benavente said.

More meetings

DHS is the lead agency to implement the federalization law in the CNMI. In an earlier response to a U.S. legislative inquiry, DHS said it will "fully" staff and fully equip the six ports of entry in the CNMI through Fiscal Year 2011, and not by Nov. 28, 2009.

Press secretary Charles Reyes said the visiting federal officials also plan to meet briefly with CPA and Customs officials, as well as tour the Saipan International Airport, the Port of Saipan, and immigration facilities.

"The DHS officials also plan to meet with federal agency representatives in the CNMI and assess island infrastructure facilities, including potential employee accommodations. Representatives of many of the concerned CNMI agencies will be present at the initial meeting between the visiting officials and Governor Fitial," he added.

The press secretary also said that representatives from the Office of the Governor discussed this trip with DHS' Customs and Border Protection in Washington, D.C. a few weeks ago.

"Over the past week, the Fitial administration has been discussing the agenda for this 'operational visit' of these top CBP officials," said Reyes.

Delay

Fitial, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan and other CNMI officials support a delay in the implementation of the federalization law in the CNMI, primarily citing DHS' lack of preparations to control CNMI borders on Nov. 28.

DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano delayed the original implementation date of June 1, 2009 by 180 days, the maximum allowed by law.

In September, DHS provided answers to the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources chaired by Rep. Nick J. Rahall II (D-WV) on questions posed in May, including data on the department's expected spending of at least $112.4 million to implement the federalization law in the CNMI using a three-phased approach until FY 2011.

DHS had said that since the facilities and infrastructure currently used by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services are inadequate to support CBP operations, DHS will be taking a phased approach to implement the standard infrastructure, information technology, and permanent staffing requirements in the CNMI.

"These requirements include ensuring an adequate power supply at CBP facilities, IT circuitry, cabling and equipment, construction of new and improvement of the existing facilities, physical security (both interior and exterior) and access control, standard maintenance and cleaning, firing range access for uniformed CBP officers, standard CBP signage, and adequate supplies of potable water," DHS said.

FUND

From Page 1

Mark Aguon.

In his report to the Fund board of trustees, Aguon said the Fund projects total operating expenditures in Fiscal Year 2010 to reach $78.5 million, compared to expected revenue of just $26.7 million.

The fiscal year started on Oct. 1, 2009, and will end on Sept. 30, 2010.

According to Aguon, pension payments to members make up the bulk of Fund expenses at $73.7 million, while administrative costs for the year are calculated at $641,000. The salaries of personnel for the whole fiscal year will amount to $1.391 million, while professional fees are projected at $2.7 million.

Compared to anticipated revenues, Aguon said the Fund is projecting to collect only $23.8 million in employer contributions using the 16 percent rate, while other revenues and collections will give the Fund an additional $2.9 million.

The only way the projected deficit can be resolved is if the government pays a contribution rate higher than the current 16 percent rate, Aguon said.

"If the government increases its payment, then we will have smaller shortfall," he said, adding that the Fund ideally wants the 37 percent contribution rate implemented to address the shortfall. The 37 percent contribution rate was recommended by the Fund's actuarial consultant to ensure the Fund's continued solvency.

The Superior Court had determined in June that the CNMI government owes the Fund over $231 million in employer contributions. It also stated the government must pay a contribution rate of 16 percent and remit all taxes owed the Fund.

During Thursday's meeting, board counsel Viola Alepuyo said the 16 percent rate is not enough for the Fund to stop withdrawing from its overseas investments.

In FY 2008, the Fund withdrew a total of $43 million from its investments, mainly to pay for the member's pensions and benefits.

As of July this year, the Fund reported that the market value of the investments is at $318.9 million.

REBATE

From Page 1

fice of Finance Secretary Bob Schrack, 19,615 individual and corporate taxpayers received $12,468,007 in rebates and refunds as of last week, and many of these recipients have already spent their checks on everything from paying utility bills to buying grocery items.

Finance has so far received 24,351 tax returns. Of this number, 20,601 have already been cleared while 839 are still being processed. Another 2,911 returns are pending additional information.

Press secretary Charles Reyes said tax rebates and refunds are being processed on a timely basis and there are still funds to pay for those whose returns are still being processed.

The distribution of the 2008 rebate checks in June this year is much earlier than the distribution dates in previous years partly due to fewer tax filers. The distribution of checks for the 2007 returns, for example, began in August 2008.

The distribution of rebate checks was done in batches of 5,000 each.

Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, who has been tasked by the governor to oversee all government finances, earlier said that the government cannot hold back on taxpayers' rebates.

In addition, 3,906 families in the CNMI have so far received over $4.4 million in additional child tax credit, and 1,456 others received an additional $565,511 in 2008 economic stimulus checks.

Last year, the U.S. government sent $16.1 million for the payment of economic stimulus rebates to CNMI taxpayers, each receiving up to $600 for an individual and up to $1,200 for a couple. Families with children got $300 per child. The law guaranteed workers who earned at least $3,000 in 2007 to receive at least $300 in tax rebate.

The rebates were the centerpiece of the U.S. government's $168 billion economic stimulus package enacted in February 2008 and were designed to bolster consumer spending and stir the sluggish economy.

OVER

From Page 1

Department of Public Safety Tinian director Jose King told *Saipan Tribune* they stopped the search at 6:30pm on Sunday and resumed the search yesterday at 6am.

King said they asked the Coast Guard's helicopter to fly low and check the possibility that Bell might be in Aguiguan Island.

"There's word that somebody saw a light in Aguiguan. So we are trying to verify that," King said.

Aguiguan Island, also called Goat Island, is located 10 miles off the southwest coast of Tinian.

The DPS official said lawyer Janet King confirmed with them that Bell was carrying a cell phone and phone numbers that were inside a Ziplock bag when she dropped him off near Suicide Cliff on Tinian on Saturday, Oct. 17. He said Bell was not carrying any bottled water when he began the swim.

During yesterday's operations, searchers covered the north side of Tinian going from the east as well as the west side.

Jose King said the Coast Guard helicopter has been flying over Aguiguan, doing a sweep of the land. "They're going back and forth to the southwest, following the current," he said.

The five boats that joined the search were from the Commonwealth Ports Authority Saipan and Tinian, Saipan Boating Safety Unit, and two civilian boats. Tinian BSU's boat is down.

Yesterday's search operation ended at 6pm. Rescuers will resume the search today, Tuesday, at 6am.

Bell jumped off near Suicide Cliff on Tinian between 11am and 12pm on Saturday. His goal was to swim around the corner of the island and surface at Kammer Beach later that day at 4pm.

Janet King accompanied Bell to his jump off point because she had long ago offered to take pictures of him in the water. She took photographs of the jump.

DPS spokesman Jason Tarkong said that on Saturday at noon, Bell walked into DPS Tinian front desk and informed them that he will be going out for a swim from South Carolinas to Kammer Beach. Bell then hung his apartment keys in the Fire Office for safekeeping, Tarkong said.

Bell had expected to arrive at Kammer Beach between 4pm and 5pm that day.

At 8pm that day, DPS received a call from Janet King, who wanted to know if Bell had checked in at DPS after his swim. Janet King said that Bell had told her he would be calling her right after his swim. Bell never called.

At 8:10pm, Tinian DPS dispatched fire fighters to check on the cliff lines from South Carolinas to Kammer Beach for any sign of Bell. Fire fighters failed to see any signs of the swimmer. Calls made to his cell phones were not answered.

The search continued Sunday morning. Fire fighters checked South Carolinas and Kammer Beach, with no sighting of Bell.

DPS Tinian then activated police and fire/emergency medical services personnel for the search and rescue operations. Tinian also asked for help from CPA.

The first day of the search (Sunday) consisted of teams conducting land searches along shoreline and cliff lines from the starting point at South Carolinas to Tachogna.

A second team started their land search from Tachogna to Bell's starting point at South Carolinas.

Water teams included the DPS Tinian Harbor Patrol, two jet skis, and the CPA Harbor Patrol. They started their search from the coastline and further out of Kammer Beach to Bell's starting point.

The teams suspended the search at 6:30pm Sunday. They began the second day of the search at 6am yesterday. Search grids were increased. As of 4:30pm yesterday, Bell has yet to be located.

In October 2008, the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Navy, and Tinian DPS searched 15 hours for Bell, who had been reported missing by friends. He was later found still swimming toward Tinian after being swept out to the open ocean.

In July 1981, he marked his retirement from the U.S. Navy by swimming alone from Saipan to Tinian in 12 hours.

11 comments on DHS' proposed investor rules

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Only 11 CNMI entities, including the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, the Fitial administration and businessmen, submitted comments on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's proposed CNMI E-2 investor visa rules.

The deadline for submitting comments on the proposed regulations was on Oct. 14.

Jim Arenovski, president of the 150-strong Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said any extension of the transition period under Section 702 of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act or the federalization law should apply to E-2 CNMI investor provisions.

In an 11-page comment, Arenovski said the Chamber "disagrees" with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' position that the transition period terminates on Dec. 14, 2014, and that the extension authority granted the secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor under the CNRA Section 702 is limited to those provisions relating to temporary workers and not the investor provisions of the CNRA.

Arenovski said the Chamber also believes that it would be "permissible, equitable and in the best interests of the CNMI community and economy" that the proposed one-time grandfathering of long-term foreign investors in the CNMI provide for a period of E-2 CNMI investor status extending beyond the end of the transition period; address certain classes of long-term foreign investors to whom the regulations should but will not apply; and provide that a multiple-entry visa be issued to each long-term foreign investor granted E-2 CNMI investor status.

The CNMI currently has 500 long-term business entry permit holders and 92 foreign investment permit holders.

The Fitial administration, represented by Commerce Secretary Michael Ada, Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham, and special legal counsel Howard P. Willens said DHS' proposed rules are "based on an incorrect interpretation of Public Law 110-229, Title VII, 122 Stat. 754, 853 (2008), regarding the duration of the transition period provided by law.

In its 13-page comment, the Fitial administration also said that DHS' proposed regulations do not reflect the fair and complete assessment of the adverse economic effects of the proposed rules on the CNMI economy, small businesses, and residents required by Executive Order 12866 and the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980.

It also said that USCIS failed to consider alternative provisions for the proposed regulations that would lessen the adverse effects of the proposed regulations on the CNMI.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), in his two-page comment, said the rule has one important provision that should be changed. This provision intends to treat those who apply for and are granted E-2 CNMI investor status from within the CNMI differently than those who apply for and are granted E-2 CNMI investor status from outside the CNMI.

Those who apply from within, unlike those who apply from without, would not be permitted to leave and then re-enter the CNMI without obtaining a separate U.S. visa.

Other entities who submitted comments, mostly saying that the proposed rules by DHS exclude many legitimate and long-term investors in the CNMI, include James Chua, Ronnie D. Hodges, Fred Prinz, gubernatorial candidate Ramon "Kumoi" Deleon Guerrero, Steven Lim, Richard Smith, lawyer Richard W. Pierce, and Barny's Pizza president Jimmy Ham.

Fitial and Hofschneider face off in today's debate

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial of the Covenant Party and Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider of the Republican Party will face off in today's gubernatorial debate sponsored by the Coalition for the Recognition, Equality and Advancement of American Minorities, Cream.

Hofschneider and Fitial were the top two vote-getters in a mock election held by Cream among its members early this month, and were the only ones invited by the group to the debate.

In separate interviews yesterday, Fitial's press secretary, Charles Reyes, and the Republican Party's acting chairman, Dave Attao, confirmed that Fitial and Hofschneider will show up in today's debate.

Attao said Hofschneider had been sick during the weekend but is well prepared to face off with Fitial.

"I'm confident the candidates will do well in the debate," said Attao, adding that Hofschneider's running mate, House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), is also expected to attend.

Reyes, for his part, said Fitial is "ready." He said Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos will also be at the debate.

The two candidates are expected to present their campaign platforms on the economy, utilities, Retirement Fund issues, education, health, and federalization, among other things.

Cream's "The Great Gubernatorial Debate of 2009" will be held in the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan at 7pm.

While the debate is free of charge, Cream accepts monetary donations for victims of Typhoon Ondoy in the Philippines.

The mock poll favored Fitial who got 71 percent of the 262 votes cast, with Hofschneider getting 17 percent.

Fitial defeated Hofschneider, who came in second, during the 2005 gubernatorial polls.

Another gubernatorial candidate, Independent Juan "Pan" Guerrero, got 12 percent of the votes cast, while former Sen. Ramon "Kumoi" Deleon Guerrero of the Democratic Party got zero votes.

The CNMI's general elections will be on Nov. 7. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on October 20th, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before October 20th.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than October 20th. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

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Study underway on Saipan's stray animal problem

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A study on Saipan's stray dogs is underway and is expected to be completed within the semester, according to Tony Benavente, public information officer of the Saipan Mayor's Office.

The Northern Marianas College and the Municipality of Saipan have joined forces for this research project intended to help the island secure funding from federal agencies.

Benavente said that NMC will field three students who will work on the data that will help determine the environment and social impact of the stray dog problem on Saipan.

For many years now, the Mayor's Office has been flooded with complaints of victims of stray animals but the issue has not been resolved despite the establishment of dog control rules and regulations in 2003.

Funding, Benavente said, has been hampering efforts to implement the dog control program, which had only $75,000 in initial funding since 2003.

"This survey/study will help the mayor's office in seeking grant assistance from federal agencies," he told Saipan Tribune.

The students who will conduct the study are Thomarlyn Mendiola, Mia Jones, and Rheena Aquino, all under the political science class of instructor Sam McPhetres.

A few months ago, the Saipan Mayor's Office submitted an application seeking a portion of the stimulus funds for the program. However, the application was turned down.

The program was initially allocated $75,000 under Saipan Local Law 9-12 for the construction of an animal shelter. However, the project was stalled for many years due to the lack of additional funding.

The program initially intended to use a facility in As Perdido to keep stray dogs but this was later changed.

A temporary animal shelter was built in Lower Base while waiting for additional funds for the permanent dog shelter, which will now be built in Kagman.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID
PSS IFB 09-034

"JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR MHS GYMNASIUM"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting Competitive Sealed Bids for **One Year of Janitorial Services for the Marianas High School Gymnasium.**

The Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950. Faxed requests maybe sent to 664-3791. A Mandatory Pre-Bid meeting will be held on Monday, October 26, 2009 at the MHS Gymnasium at 10:00 A.M. Bids submitted by bidders who do not attend this meeting will be rejected.

Bids should be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 09-034"** containing One (1) original with Three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office no later than **October 30, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.,** at which time, bids will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Questions should be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement & Supply Officer or E-mail to the following address: **florian@saipan.com.**

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Recipients of the TSL Foundation scholarship program show the checks they received Friday during a ceremony at Fiesta Resort & Spa Hotel. Front row, from left, are Livia Pangelinan, Roxanne Ferrer, Chanelle Mendiola, Patricia Matagolai, Antonio Benavente. In the middle row, from left, are Glenda Cabrera, Katherine Mersai, Juana Atalig, Tasia Bocago, Isaac Carling. NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez and foundation chair Jerry Tan are in the back row.

Foundation awards 10 scholarship grants

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ten Northern Marianas College students were awarded a $10,000 scholarship grant offered by the Tan Siu Li Foundation to support deserving individuals.

Livia Pangelinan, Roxanne Ferrer, Chanelle Mendiola, Patricia Matagolai, Antonio Benavente, Glenda Cabrera, Katherine Mersai, Juana Atalig, Tasia Bocago, and Isaac Carling were each presented a $1,000 check by NMC and foundation officials during a special ceremony at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan on Friday.

The committee reviewed a total of 26 scholarship applicants and top ten scorers were selected as official recipients of the grant.

Glenda Cabrera, a sophomore accounting student, expressed gratitude to the foundation for coming up with a program that "truly helps Commonwealth students." She said the only way she can repay the foundation is by successfully completing her degree.

"I will do my best to finish and get my degree," she said.

Tasia Bocago, a freshman and taking double majors in criminal justice and education, said the foundation's assistance will inspire and motivate more students to do their best in their studies.

According to Ed Arriola of the TSL Foundation, recipients of the program were selected based on their grade point average, essays, and community involvement. He said the program was started two years ago and was revived this year.

"We decided to revive this scholarship program because we recognize that being the only college in the CNMI, it has to be supported by the private sector and we want to support that role by providing financial assistance to students who can excel academically and professionally," he said, adding that investing in students is a sure way to build and retain local workforce on the island.

In a statement, NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez expressed gratitude to the TSL Foundation.

"We are extremely grateful to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation for providing these scholarships," said Fernandez. "They will go a long way in helping our students achieve their educational goals."

Also present at the ceremony was foundation chair Jerry Tan.

The Tan Holdings Foundation was formed in 2002 and was recently renamed after the company's founder and chairman, Dr. Tan Siu Lin.

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a Board of Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Friday, October 23, 2009 beginning at 9:00 AM at the 2nd Floor, Bank of Guam Building Conference Room; Tinian, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

I PRELIMINARIES
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes

II CONSULTANT'S REPORTS
- Loan Administrator Reports
  - Status Updates
- Investment Consultant Reports
  - IPS Review & Approval
  - Flash Reports – SEPT 2009
- Legal Counsel Reports
  - APLE 501
  - Assigned Legal Matters
  - NMHC Home Foreclosure Actions (Initial Report)
- Board Consultant Reports
  - Financial Statements – August 2009

III OLD BUSINESS
- GF Distribution Status Updates re: P.L. 10-29 Amendment
- Rota Gaming Commission Loan Request
- Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan Loan Request
- IBPC Loan Request - Updated
- Administrative Manual – Personnel Benefits

IV NEW BUSINESS
- HB 16-280
- Independent Contract Review – International Management Limited

V EXECUTIVE SESSION
At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

VI MISCELLANEOUS

VII ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Phillip Mendiola-Long, AIF
Chairman, Board of Trustees

ROTA CASINO GAMING COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
POST OFFICE BOX 1547, ROTA, MP 96951
PHONE: 1.670.532.7242
EMAIL: rotacommission@gmail.com

PURSUANT TO THE OPEN GOVERNMENT ACT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION, DIEGO M. SONGAO HEREBY ANNOUNCES THAT THE ROTA CASINO GAMING COMMISSION'S REGULAR MEETING FOR FRIDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2009.

DATE: **Friday, 23 October 2009**

TIME: **2:00 PM**

LOCATION: **Antonio Camacho Atalig Memorial Annex Building**
Rota Casino Gaming Commission's Office
Tatachog, Rota, MP 96951

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Adoption of Agenda
IV. Adoption of Minutes
V. Chairman's Report
VI. Old Business
- RCGC Funding

VII. New Business
- Draft Temporary Casino License Application

VIII. Miscellaneous
IX. Adjournment

*At anytime during the meeting, the Commission may move to Executive Session.

/s/ DIEGO M. SONGAO **19, October 2009**
Chairman

50 years later, brothers journey to childhood paradise

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Brothers Mike and Tim Larum are inseparable. As school kids, together they took pleasure in everything around them. Their playground was an environment awash with greeneries and surrounded by a clear blue ocean crashing on the powdery-white shores. It was also home to a friendly community.

Theirs was a childhood story that took place on a paradise some five decades ago.

And there was no greater way for Mike and his younger brother Tim to rekindle with their past than to return to the place they spent a brief yet memorable childhood—on Saipan.

Up until this day brothers Mike, now 58, and his younger brother, Tim, 55, remain close and still remember how their family moved into Saipan in 1958 after their father's reassignment. Their father worked for the Naval Technical Training Unit during the post-war, a job that would require reassignment every two years.

Their father's two-year work assignment on Saipan yielded lifelong memories that siblings Mike and Tim journeyed back to, this time as businessmen.

"After that two years' stay, this is the first time that I came back to the island with my brother. We have talked about coming back many times and to let our mother revisit this place. But there were so many things we could not do," said Mike, relating how he waited for the day to set foot again on the island he once called home.

Tim recalled walking across the vastness of the Susupe campus of Mt. Carmel School to gather sea shells and spend time on the beach.

They also loved to play under the rain. As grade schoolers at Mt. Carmel School, Mike and Tim would recall how "every time it rained and the wind blows, we ran outside to help close the shutters and it was fun playing under the rain."

There was the "blue-colored and gum-flavored shaved ice" being sold on campus that younger brother, Tim, would never forget about his elementary years.

"There was this shaved ice, colored blue and a bubble gum flavor that I really like. I never tasted that flavor of shaved ice again when we left Saipan," Tim said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

On his father's free time, the family would ride on a small boat to Managaha and enjoy the vastness of the Pacific Ocean, with the lush greeneries of Saipan in the background. Another favorite picnic area for the family was Micro Beach, a stretch of wide, sandy beach that was dotted with families of service members.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

Brothers Mike and Tim Larum, left and right standing, pose with friends Doug Brennan, center, and David Sablan, seated front, during their visit last Friday at Sablan's office. The two brothers are on a two-week sentimental journey to Saipan.

"We used to go out as children, on a fishing boat, to the beach. There were not many paved roads and a lot of trails. It was like a jungle with overgrown *tangan-tangan*. But our life here was pretty memorable," said Mike.

Tim added, "Of all the other places we lived in, Saipan is one of the places I wanted to return to because it was beautiful then and still is beautiful now. And I love the ocean—it is the most beautiful ocean I have ever seen."

Last week, the Larum brothers flew back to the island for a two-week sentimental journey from Montana, the northwestern state that was their family's last stop many years after leaving Saipan.

Saipan showed them its new face, 50 years their last sojourn to the island. Gone are the nearly impenetrable forests, replaced by tall buildings and modern amenities. Paved roads replaced jagged trails that "was like walking in the jungle," said Tim.

Despite Saipan's transformation and urbanization over the years, what awed the brothers was its ability to balance development and a clean environment.

"I didn't think the color blue for an ocean still existed anymore anywhere," according to Mike, who spent a lot of his childhood on Saipan's sapphire-blue waters. "It was beautiful then and it still remains beautiful today. This is the most beautiful ocean."

Mike and Tim have no immediate plans to relocate to the island, but this is not far from the realm of possibilities. They have lost touch with their grade school classmates and childhood friends, but their visit to Saipan has paved the way for new friendships.

By word of mouth, the Larum brothers' visit prompted individuals with great interest in the island's historic past to visit the siblings at their hotel.

There was David Sablan, who was fascinated by the brothers' childhood memories. Sablan himself saw and witnessed Saipan's storied past, sharing his experience with the two.

Doug Brennan heard of the siblings' story and went to visit them. Brennan's father worked with Mike and Tim Larum's father at the Naval Technical Training Unit, then situated on Capital Hill.

Last Friday, the men watched a collection of videos taken during memorable occasions in 1958, such as Tim's birthday party.

They wished that their parents, who passed away many years ago, could have been with them on this travel. With their return to Montana, one thing is certain: this journey has brought them much closer together and how, yet again, they found a home, the paradise they once called Saipan.

CNMI ARRA
Public Forum
American Recovery & Reinvestment Act
SAIPAN
When: October 20th 2009 (TUESDAY)
Where: Multi-Purpose Center
Time: 5:00 - 7:00pm
TINIAN
When: October 21st 2009 (WEDNESDAY)
Where: Tinian Public Library
Time: 12:00 - 2:00pm
ROTA
When: October 22nd 2009 (THURSDAY)
Where: Rota Round House
Time: 5:00 - 7:00pm
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Any questions/concerns please contact Alfreda Camacho at (670) 664-3015
This advertisement was made possible through a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs.

Ogo to represent NMI at aquaculture conference

In recognition of his efforts to promote and expand the commercialization of aquacultural activities in the CNMI, Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research Extension and Education Services's aquaculture consultant Michael Ogo was recently selected by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Pacific region's leading scientific authority, to attend an aquaculture study tour in Thailand and represent the CNMI at a global conference in Malaysia sponsored by the World Aquaculture Society.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community is an international organization that offers technical assistance, policy advice, training, and research to the CNMI and other island countries and territories in the Pacific in the areas of health, human development, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries (aquaculture). The World Aquaculture Society is a non-profit global organization whose focus is to strengthen research and communications worldwide in the study of aquaculture.

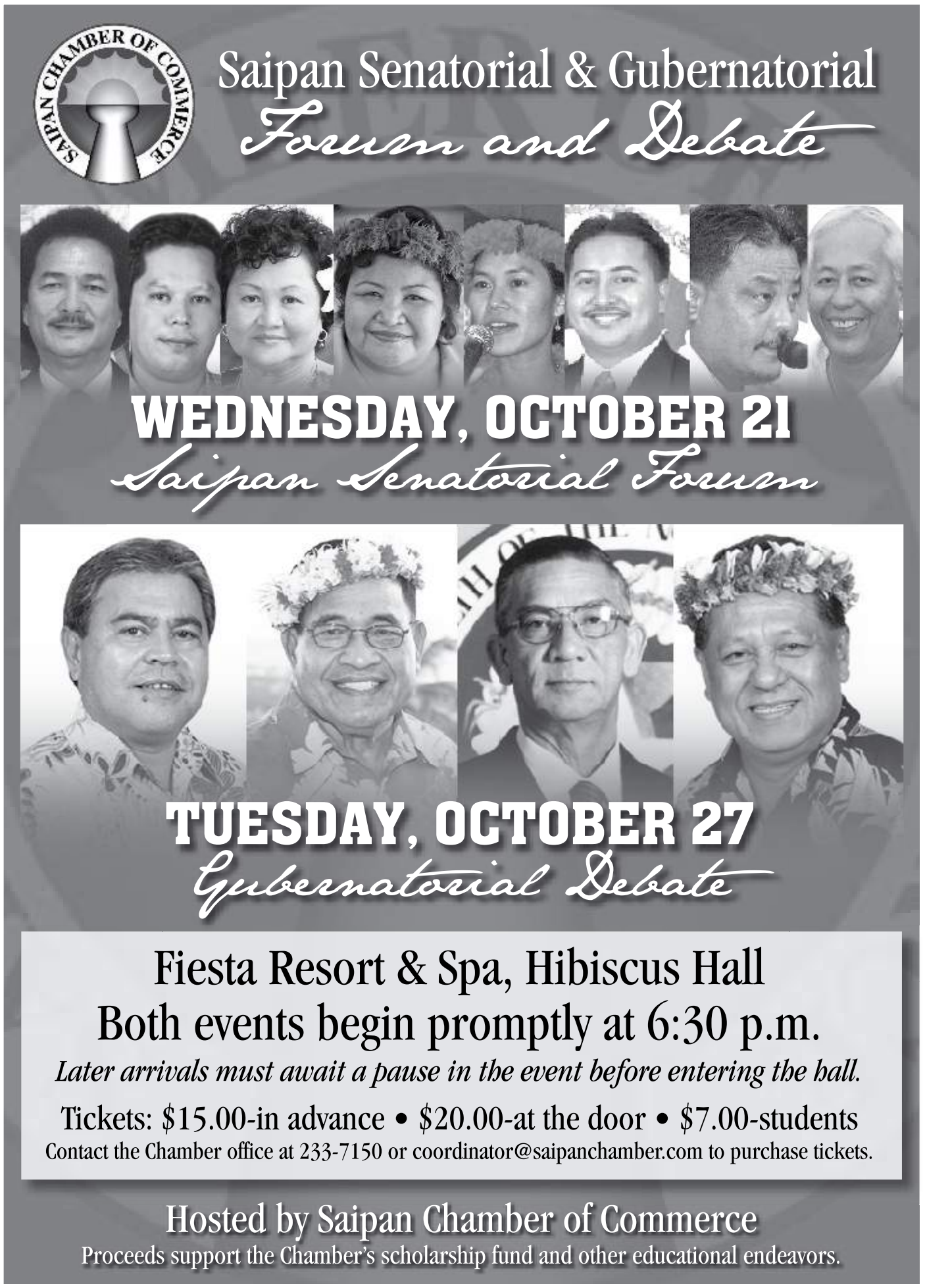
"I am deeply honored to have been given this opportunity to meet with fellow aquatic studies experts," said Ogo.

Ogo, who has been the lead on all of NMC's aquaculture endeavors since its introduction in 2005, will be joining representatives from other Pacific island members of the SPC at the two venues. In Thailand, Ogo will visit aquatic feed and equipment manufacturing sites, as well as a research institute specializing in aquatic studies. At the conference in Malaysia, which is annually attended by aquaculture experts, aquatic equipment suppliers, and potential investors, Ogo will promote a potential aquatic industry in the CNMI.

"By meeting with feed and equipment suppliers, I will be able to identify and procure more nutritious feed for the specimens in our tanks, as well as affordable cutting-edge technology used in aquatic laboratories around the world," he added.

Ogo has headed various projects including the advancement of the college's aquatic lab's biosecurity efforts, the implementation of the recirculating aquaculture systems in the lab's tanks, and the research of many new varieties of aquatic life.

"We are extremely proud of the recognition and prestige that Michael brings to the college," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "I am sure that the knowledge and experience he brings back from the international workshops and conference will prove instrumental in furthering NMC's efforts to diversify and stimulate economic activity in aquaculture." ***(NMC)***


Saipan Chamber of Commerce
Saipan Senatorial & Gubernatorial
Forum and Debate
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21
Saipan Senatorial Forum
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27
Gubernatorial Debate
Fiesta Resort & Spa, Hibiscus Hall
Both events begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.
Later arrivals must await a pause in the event before entering the hall.
Tickets: $15.00-in advance • $20.00-at the door • $7.00-students
Contact the Chamber office at 233-7150 or coordinator@saipanchamber.com to purchase tickets.
Hosted by Saipan Chamber of Commerce
Proceeds support the Chamber's scholarship fund and other educational endeavors.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 20, 1999

Teno: I don't mean to put Lang in jail

Saying he is just complying with the law, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday denied claims by former Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio that the administration wants to put him in jail in connection with a court ruling on a taxpayers' lawsuit ordering him to pay $12.4 million. "I don't want to see anybody in jail... I have no intention of putting people in jail. We just want to follow what is the requirement of the law," he told reporters. His statement came as the Attorney General's Office wrapped up its review of the request for assistance sought by the former governor ahead of the court hearing on his appeal against the decision. According to the governor, government lawyers are expected to come up with their decision soon and that information will be provided to media regarding the status of Froilan's request.

CRM to decide on complaints against MGM-Diorva

A three-man appeals committee of the Coastal Resources Management will convene today to decide on the complaint filed by a resident questioning the operation of MGM/Diorva in the Dandan area because of its alleged negative impact on the environment. More than a year ago, Joseph T. Torres filed a complaint against MGM/Diorva claiming that the garment factory failed to notify nearby residents that it will be operating in the Dandan area. In his earlier petition, Torres expressed concern on the impact of the garment firm's sewer system on the community and the environment.

Oct. 20, 2000

CNMI bans deported aliens from re-entry

Nonresident workers deported by the government for violation of its immigration laws are now barred forever from returning into the CNMI. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio signed yesterday Public Law 12-25 amending existing laws to permanently ban a deported alien from reentry. Lawmakers believe the ban is in the best interest of law-abiding citizens of the islands. "If an alien cannot abide by our laws, and has subjected themselves to deportation, then they should forfeit the privilege of being here," a legislative committee report said.

Gov't reports all-time low in hotel occupancy tax collection

A strong manifestation that the islands' tourism industry is at its lowest point, the CNMI government has reported a record-low in the amount of revenues collected from hotel occupancy taxes since 1996. Government records disclosed hotel occupancy taxes averaged $2.8 million in the first half of the financial year 2000, which translates into about six percent fall from the year ago's semestral average of $3 million. Figures from the finance department, listed in the Quarterly Economic Review prepared by the Central Statistics Division, revealed hotel occupancy taxes contributed $6 million into the overall revenues generated by the CNMI government in Fiscal Year 1999.

Oct. 20, 2002

USPS: Port lockout trapped some mail

Letters and packages that were trapped at the West Coast port during the lockout week are expected to be delivered to CNMI recipients in the next two months, according to the United States Postal Service on Saipan. However, mail backlogs only include letters and packages that were sent through the standard or ground delivery system. USPS-CNMI Postmaster John William San Nicolas, in an interview Friday, explained that the traffic of letters and other items that were sent through the special delivery system, which is offered on premium rates, was not disrupted by the weeklong work stoppage at West Coast ports. San Nicolas said the Northern Marianas continued to receive its one 40-foot container of mail each week even during the port lockout.

5th Youth Congress senators: All set to serve

All set and eager to get down to business, elected members of the 5th Youth Congress set off into their first organizational session yesterday during an inauguration ceremony bedecked with pomp and style. In the presence of no less than the Commonwealth's top leaders, led by Gov. Juan N. Babauta, 23 new youth senators vowed to serve their youth constituents by addressing the most pressing issues besetting their generation today. The induction ceremony, held at the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building in Capitol Hill, marked a turning point for three re-elected youth senators and the 20 newcomers who are relishing their first taste of life in political office.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Fitial-Hofschneider debate today

The Coalition for Recognition, Equality and Advancement of American Ethnic Minorities holds "The Great Gubernatorial Debate of 2009" between Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa today, Oct. 20, 2009. Seating is limited and doors will close at 7pm. No political posters or pins, or t-shirts with slogans. The event is free and first come, first served—but monetary donations will be accepted for RP typhoon victims. For more information, call 483-3138 or 483-0727. ***(PR)***

THS PTA meeting today

This is to remind all parents/legal guardians that the regular monthly meeting for the Tinian High School PTA will be held today, Oct. 20, at 6:30pm at the THS cafeteria. Feel free to call the school at 237-4167 if you have any questions. ***(PR)***

Telethon to raise funds for Samoa victims

This Saturday, Oct 24, 2009, from 6am-6pm, the Samoan Association of Saipan will host a telethon at the Garapan Fishing Base and will be taking calls for monetary donations/contributions. The group is kindly asking the community for their support and a dollar from everyone on the island can do a lot. To make a donation now, call 286-3311.

There will be 20 acts performing on Saturday for the telethon, there will also be some vendors selling food for the Samoan Relief fund. The group is also accepting clothing donations. ***(PR)***

Chamber to host senatorial forum

There will be a senatorial forum, sponsored by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2009, at Fiesta Resort (Hibiscus Hall), starting at 6:30pm. Doors will close promptly at 6:30pm. Tickets cost $15 before the event and $20 at the door. All eight senatorial candidates are expected to participate. For more information contact the Chamber of Commerce at 233-7150. ***(PR)***

Kagman sets gubernatorial forum

There will be a Gubernatorial Forum, sponsored by the Kagman Komunidat Association, on Friday, Oct. 23, 2009, at the Kagman Community Center starting at 7pm. All undecided voters are invited to attend and share their concerns. For more information, contact Jesse Torres at kagmankomunidatassociation@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Chamber sets gubernatorial debate

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will host a Gubernatorial Debate next week, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2009, at Fiesta Resort (Hibiscus Hall) starting at 6:30pm. Doors will close promptly at 6:30pm. Tickets cost $15 before the event and $20 at the door. All four gubernatorial candidates are expected to participate. For more information contact the Chamber of Commerce at 233-7150. ***(PR)***

Deadline set for filing quarterly returns

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to remind all CNMI residents that the 2009 3rd Quarter deadline for filing the quarterly returns is Monday, Nov. 2, 2009. The Division of Revenue and Taxation will be open from 7:30am until 6:30pm on Monday, Nov. 2, 2009. The office of the Division of Revenue & Taxation is located at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Center. For additional information call 664-1000, 664-1043 Compliance Branch, or 664-1065, Collection Branch. ***(PR)***

Live-fire training on FDM

The U.S. military will be conducting live-fire training on the island of Farallon De Mendenilla. The schedule date and time are as follow:

Oct. 20, from 1pm to 7pm

Oct. 21 – 22, from 10am to 1am

For more information, contact the EMO Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. ***(EMO)***

CDD candidates forum on Saipan postponed, on Tinian set for Oct. 31

The CNMI Council on Development Disabilities candidates forum on Saipan, originally set for Oct. 21 at the Saipan World Resort, has been postponed until further notice.

The candidates' forum for Tinian is set on Oct. 31, 10am at the Tinian Elementary School.

The candidates forum, which is inviting candidates running for the House of Representatives and Senate, allows individuals with disabilities an opportunity to exercise their rights to speak and be heard as members of this community in areas of education, transportation, employment, housing, and health. ***(PR)***

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-GOV-007

Construction Management/Contract Compliance For Water Task Force Projects

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force (WTF), are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified Consultants to provide Construction Management/Contract Compliance Services for various WTF contracts and projects.

The proposal package will be available on or after **October 13, 2009** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan or by request faxed to (670) 664-1515.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, **October 23, 2009** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number (670) 664-2279.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is not available to local proposers in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"Construction Management/Contract Compliance", RFP10-GOV-007**. One (1) original and four (4) copies must be submitted. Sealed proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply, at Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **3:00 p.m., October 28, 2009 (CNMI local time).**

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/ BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Governor

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement and Supply

INVITATION FOR BIDS
WATER TASK FORCE
IFB10-GOV-008

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting Sealed Bids from qualified individuals or firms for the lease of a warehouse on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The procurement specifications and special terms and conditions will be available at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan on or after **October 13, 2009.**

All questions regarding this Invitation for Bids shall be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM, **October 23, 2009** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager, at facsimile number (670) 664-2279.

Sealed Bids must be marked **"Lease of Warehouse", IFB10-GOV-008**. An original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan no later than **2:00 P.M., local time, on October 28, 2009** at which time Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Bid procedures shall be in full compliance with Article 3, Part A, Section 3-102 of the Regulations. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

This project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs. Award of a contract is contingent upon approval from DOI/OIA.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All Bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Kremlin rules

It's become so commonplace that the world little noticed last Sunday when Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin staged another phony, Soviet-style election. As in the old days, the ruling party (now known as "United Russia" instead of "Communist Party of the Soviet Union") won a smashing victory in local jurisdictions across the country, with opposing party politicians reduced to bit parts permitted for decorative effect only. Medvedev, who frequently impresses Western politicians with his statements in praise of democracy, hailed the elections as "well organized," which we suppose is undeniable. Putin, who is less sentimental about these things, dismissed protesting politicians as whiners: "Those who don't win are never happy," he sniffed.

So it was gratifying to hear Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, coincidentally visiting Moscow in the days after the election, speak firmly in defense of true democracy. To a group of civil society leaders, increasingly embattled and in danger in Putin's Russia, Clinton said, "Both President Obama and I want to stress strongly how the United States stands with those who work for freedom, (who) campaign for justice and democracy, and who risk their lives to speak out for human rights."

She repeated the message at Moscow State University, telling students that the innovation Medvedev says he wants to foster in society can't flourish without "core freedoms, free speech, freedom of the press, the freedom to participate in the political process." She granted an interview to Echo Moskvy Radio, one of the few remaining independent media outlets of any significance, where she expressed "no doubt" that "democracy is in Russia's best interests, that respecting human rights, an independent judiciary, a free media are in the interests of building a strong, stable political system." And, at the civil society meeting, she was specific, noting that 18 journalists have been killed in Russia since 2000, with only one of those crimes solved. "When violence like this goes unpunished in any society," Clinton said, "it's undermining the rule of law, chills public discourse, which is, after all, the lifeblood of an open society. ..."

As Clinton made clear, such honesty need not impede diplomatic engagement. Russian leaders will act in their interests, as they see them, in any case. But her words may cheer those in Russia who continue to fight for their rights, against long odds, while reminding all Russians that a less cynical government might lead to a more prosperous country.

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The other Monroe Doctrine

By HARLOW GINES UNGER
*Special to theL*os Angeles Times

Unger is the author, most recently, of The Last Founding Father: James Monroe and a Nation's Call to Greatness.

As Barack Obama tries to address soaring rates of unemployment and home foreclosure, he would do well to bone up on a predecessor, James Monroe. In 1819, at a time when mortgage foreclosures had forced thousands of Americans from their homes and unemployment had soared to 16.8 percent, President Monroe presented a plan to Congress for restoring the nation's economy.

At the time, tens of thousands of Americans were streaming westward across the Appalachian Mountains to buy federal land at $2 an acre, borrowing more than they could ever repay. As land prices soared, banks lent every penny they had and more—no questions asked. Many banks issued their own colorful bank notes—backed by no-one-knew-what. One Rhode Island bank with a capitalization of only $45 issued bank notes with a total face value of $800,000.

With demand for land all but insatiable, speculators rushed to borrow bank notes as fast as banks could print them and buy land to resell to gullible would-be settlers, who expected to repay loans from crops they hoped to plant on the properties. The frenzy was so great that purchasers never checked whether the speculators actually owned the lands they sold or whether they sold the same lands multiple times.

Concerned over runaway speculation and fraudulent land sales, Congress passed a law requiring banks to back the paper they issued with specie—coins, gold, silver and so forth. As the first few insolvent banks closed their doors, depositors staged a run on the rest and forced bankers to try to call in loans or shut their doors. More than 1,000 closed, and the bubble popped. Speculators, borrowers, homeowners, banks and the government were broke. Thousands of people lost their homes; tens of thousands had no work; and Republicans in Congress refused to expand the already enormous federal deficit to help them.

Outraged at congressional inaction, Monroe began working to shame Congress into passing an economic recovery program. Demanding "increased harmony" from Congress, he scolded obstructionists in and out of government. "Discord does not belong to our system," he thundered. "The American people ... constitute one great family with a common interest. ... Possessing as we do all the raw materials, the fruit of our own soil and industry, we ought not to depend in the degree we have done on supplies from other countries. ... The capital which nourishes our manufactures should be domestic."

Monroe ordered his secretary of the Treasury to disburse millions of dollars from the Bank of the United States—the 19th-century equivalent of the Federal Reserve—to help states build and expand the national infrastructure. Monroe put tens of thousands of Americans back to work building a vast network of roads, turnpikes and canals that linked every region of the nation with outlets to the sea and shipping routes to other continents.

A great new "National Road" linked the Potomac River to the Ohio River and opened the West to large-scale farming, with thousands of tons of grain, furs and other raw materials pouring over the Appalachians to Eastern manufacturers and cargo vessels in Eastern ports. Improvements in the steamboat lowered transportation costs and increased the speed with which goods traveled to market on the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and other waterways. And in one of the most spectacular engineering schemes the world had ever seen, the first 15 miles of the 360-mile-long Erie Canal opened in upper New York state. It eventually linked the Great Lakes with the Hudson River and the Atlantic Ocean and helped make the United States the wealthiest nation on Earth.

Monroe's plan ultimately ended the depression and ushered in the greatest period of prosperity the nation has known. As the economy recovered, government deficits turned into surpluses, and Monroe rejoiced. "At no period of our political existence," he declared, "have we had so much cause to felicitate ourselves at the prosperous and happy condition of our country. The abundant fruits of the Earth have filled it with plenty. ... In contemplating the happy situation of the United States ... I consider it my duty to recommend to Congress the repeal ... (of) internal taxes." And with that, Congress abolished all property taxes and other internal taxes.

With the rest of the world at war, Monroe refused to allow foreign enemies to provoke us into costly overseas entanglements. Instead of wasting national resources in overseas wars, he invested in rendering America's defenses impregnable and warned the world it had more to gain by trading with us than attacking us.

In the end, Monroe modernized the nation and created an "Era of Good Feelings" that united Americans and left his few opponents unable to even field a presidential candidate in the 1820 elections. Monroe became the only president other than George Washington to win election to the presidency unopposed.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Hunger feeds the desperation leading to turmoil

By SAMUEL R. BERGER
Special to the Los Angeles Times

Berger was national security advisor to President Clinton from 1997 to 2001 and serves on Friends of the World Food Program's board of directors.

Every day we wake up to headlines and images of devastating violence in hot spots around the globe. In Pakistan, for example, attacks over the last few weeks have killed scores and seriously injured many more. But beneath the headlines, there is another great challenge that is often the root cause of violence or its unintended consequences: increasing rates of hunger and an alarming lack of food.

Friday was World Food Day. At this time, we must understand that hunger and conflict go hand in hand. Millions of people in poor countries suffer the burden. In 2008, protests over high food prices swept the globe. In Haiti, demonstrations turned into violent riots, killing many and causing widespread looting.

These explosions are no surprise. Empty stomachs breed panic and desperation, while extremist groups—such as the one in Pakistan that carried out the recent attacks—use food to advance their violent missions while undercutting security.

This year, Somalia and Sudan made headlines for similar turmoil. In Darfur, Sudan, one of the world's largest humanitarian crises has left nearly 4 million conflict victims looking to international relief organizations for assistance. In addition to forcing people from their homes, Darfur's conflict has destroyed the economy and prevented millions of children from completing their education, ensuring that Sudan remains one of the world's poorest and most dangerous places. Humanitarian workers risk danger on a daily basis. The World Food Program has had its trucks hijacked and its drivers kidnapped or killed. In Somalia, where 3.6 million people require food aid daily, fighting keeps more than 1.5 million people homeless with no means to support themselves or their children.

A crucial element to fighting conflict in poor countries is to ensure adequate food, proper nutrition and access to education. School meals programs promote education and nutrition by giving hungry schoolchildren at least one meal a day. Once children start eating a healthy meal, schools report remarkable increases in enrollment, attendance and academic performance, and they are less vulnerable to recruitment by rebel forces.

For girls, the transformation changes lives and breaks the cycle of poverty. When they are properly nourished and educated, women marry later and have fewer children. Their children are healthier and better educated.

The meals programs also promote human rights, helping thwart trafficking and child labor. They address chronic hunger and offer such key interventions as deworming, vitamin A tablets and education about HIV/AIDS and sanitary standards. The programs even give some students food rations to help feed their families. The promise of food makes parents more inclined to send their children to school and ensure they complete their education.

Children who grow up in the world's poorest countries know hunger as an everyday part of life. The U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that every six seconds a child dies of hunger. Those who don't die face a childhood of worry and desperation—a never-ending empty stomach. Many of them end up foraging in the streets or garbage heaps, where they are prime targets for recruitment by extremist groups or other criminal organizations. That is simply not acceptable when most live in a world of plenty.

Ensuring that no child goes to school hungry is the single greatest investment we can make in building prosperous, healthy and stable societies. The United States and other developed nations must make nutrition a requirement in peacemaking strategies.

Letter to the Editor

Two year or not two year

I have not written or commented (much) about the CNMI's transition from a locally run system of immigration to one run by the federal government for good reason: there simply was not (yet) enough information available at any level for which reasonable and accurate comments could be made. The closest, so far, have been the series of factually based articles written by Bruce Mailman and Maya Kara, both attorneys with considerable immigration experience, while most others seem hell-bent on an unrelenting course of unreasonable and inaccurate comments.

However, the recent rush headlong of the CNMI into something called a "two-year umbrella" permit and the subsequent brouhaha over consequences has me clawing for some sense of sanity in this whole mess. Yet it seems the answers may lie within the very series of articles that appear sometimes at the same time in the same newsprint, but have yet to be assimilated by a suspicious and tormented public.

On one hand we have the ubiquitous "volunteer," Deanne Siemer, supported by the governor, the NMI Department of Labor, and many of the governor's minions including HANMI, the Chamber of Commerce and (in a recent article) "consultancy" with no less than four (in-the shadows) lawyers "representing foreign workers" and the Philippine consul-general. Personally, I would like to know just who is having input (or forming the output) into these policies other than a "volunteer" and just what that input might be. And make no mistake, what's coming out from the CNMI's "halls of the ethereal" are not laws or even regulations, but rather "policies," thus leading to the legal question of: Are they legal? Just how many times in the past have we seen such last minute scrambling (apparently to either satisfy campaign promises or garner upcoming votes) on the part of NMI "officials" turn out to be bogus when closely examined at later dates? The CUC debacle being the latest example.

Regardless of your stance right now, two diametrically opposed sides to the issue have emerged: 1) The two-year permit protects a worker's status; and 2) The two-year permit does NOT protect the worker's status. Depending on who you listen to, you may see points from each, but you must not allow yourself to be transfixed by one or the other. You must dig deeper to see through the folderol of propaganda and what the various sources are, most importantly, leaving out of their arguments. Of course, the deciding factor will be the U. S. Department of Homeland Security and the ultimate regulations.

Ms. Siemer states: "The two-year permit protects a worker's status. If a worker does not have the two-year permit that the commonwealth is offering, and their current permit expires, they could be completely out of status with absolutely no way to get back into status."

Ms. Doromal counters with: "...the new permit policy will also benefit business owners who want to maintain the broken labor system, the Department of Labor, and those who profit…at the expense of the disenfranchised workers."

Enter Mailman and Kara: "All of the current labor system will remain in place and compliance with that system is the conditional aspect of the umbrella permit. If the conditions are violated, the permit may be revoked." Followed with: "There is also a direct economic benefit to the employer: instead of renewing workers for the full two-year period prior to Nov. 28, the employer can now make the choice to renew or not renew at the end of the current contract."

What does it all mean? The simplest boiled-down upshot seems to be that the NMI's two-year "umbrella" permit system in reality means little or nothing but electioneering fluff and, perhaps more heinous than usual, may lead alien workers to a false sense of security. The governor and his minions, including our ever-present volunteer, seem to be trying to convince foreign workers to grab this "umbrella" as if it were their only salvation in a sea of controversy; a sea mostly aroused to anger by the very same people who now claim to be the ointment for calming the waters.

Note the explanation of Mailman and Kara that "all of the current labor system will remain in place...if the conditions are violated, the permit (umbrella) may be revoked," meaning that a worker must *also* re-new his/her *current* work permit when it expires sometime between now and the next two years. The "umbrella" permit apparently does *nothing* to extend currently existing permits. So what *is* its purpose other than to lead to the aforementioned false sense of security? Does it confer a "right" to renew one's existing permit if it expires before Nov. 27, 2011? I believe *not*, since such a permit is a matter of *policy*, not *law*.

What benefits will accrue the worker? Well, *if* the worker is one who has recently been issued a new CNMI two-year work permit, then practically nothing. And *if* the worker is not one of those, then even if he/she obtains the "umbrella" permit, he/she will still have to obtain a contract renewal from their employer during the two-year period between November 2009 and November 2011, otherwise, the "conditions" will not be satisfied and the "umbrella," like so much smoke, will simply disappear! Further, and contrary to Ms. Siemer's assertion, the employee, even though in "out-of-status" category, *could* still get back into "status" if they or their employer has the means to obtain a legitimate USCIS status—something that will be required of all workers eventually whether at the end of the first month after Nov. 28, 2009, sometime in between, at the end of two years or any extensions yet to be determined by USCIS. The fly in the ointment here seems to be that the worker may have to return to his/her home country before USCIS authorities would renew (or originate) legitimate "status" at the behest of any current or potential employer.

This is an even likelier scenario because now the employer (according to Mailman and Kara) will no longer have to bear the expense of permit renewal *this* year and could simply wait until the actual permit expires and allow the worker to fall into an "out of status" category since the "umbrella" does *not* guarantee renewal or extension. It appears that only those few lucky employees who have recently been issued valid two-year permits and those who qualify for USCIS visas will be around after expiration of their current permits. Those whose current permits expire (no matter their length) will need to renew under USCIS regulations and will probably tramp to the USCIS office with "umbrella" permit in hand, only to be told: "You have no current CNMI work permit." Yet all of this could be changed when DHS finally issues its long awaited regulations.

So why is the renewal of permits (whenever they expire) important? Well, yet another comment by Mailman and Kara states: "There are the H1 and H2 visa categories that are potentially available...we believe that very few CNMI employers will be willing or able to obtain such visas for their employees." This is highly likely and lends even more credence to the scenario that these smoke-filled "umbrella" permits will have no real benefit to workers but at least some benefit to employers, "employers" being primarily those clinging to the lifeline of HANMI and the Chamber; "other" employers being unceremoniously left flagging in the breeze as their employees are whittled away by as yet undetermined USCIS requirements—*albeit*, a few of them deservedly so.

This whole thing appears absolutely designed to perpetuate a proven faulty system of benefit only to beholden employers with little or no incentive for those alien employees whose tireless work and sacrifice has led to many of the foundation building blocks of the NMI—even if the whole thing was built on quicksand. It is also a system that has precluded the development of "trade education" in the NMI, which should have been the *main* goal of a dysfunctional NMC, but instead was relegated to a small handful of startup trade schools continually bashed in the head by government "un-thinking" in order to support yet another dysfunctional labor system—all to the extreme detriment of a local workforce led down the path of non-righteous employment in the very government that is the source of it all. Thus goes the cycle of inevitability, not unlike the proverbial "automatic self-licking ice-cream cone" soon to be slurped into non-existence by its own existence.

And so we now have no less than *two* "documents" from the CNMI: the governor's "Protocol for Transition" (written by yet another "volunteer") and an "umbrella" permit—both of which appear to be yet more feeble attempts at perpetuation of the status quo and may just amount to squat when the feds take over.

In summary, I would say to those who elect to obtain the "umbrella" permit: Go ahead, but be forewarned that you *still* must comply with the conditions of your existing permit—and that includes a non-guaranteed renewal that may just give your employer lease to forego current renewal in exchange for a rather nebulous future. For those who do *not* elect to obtain the "umbrella," well, you appear not have lost anything you don't already have or will have—being primarily insecurity and anxiety.

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.
San Jose Village, Tinian

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲85	▼76
Palau	Sunny	▲86	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Sunny	▲88	▼74
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼76
Majuro	Rain	▲85	▼75

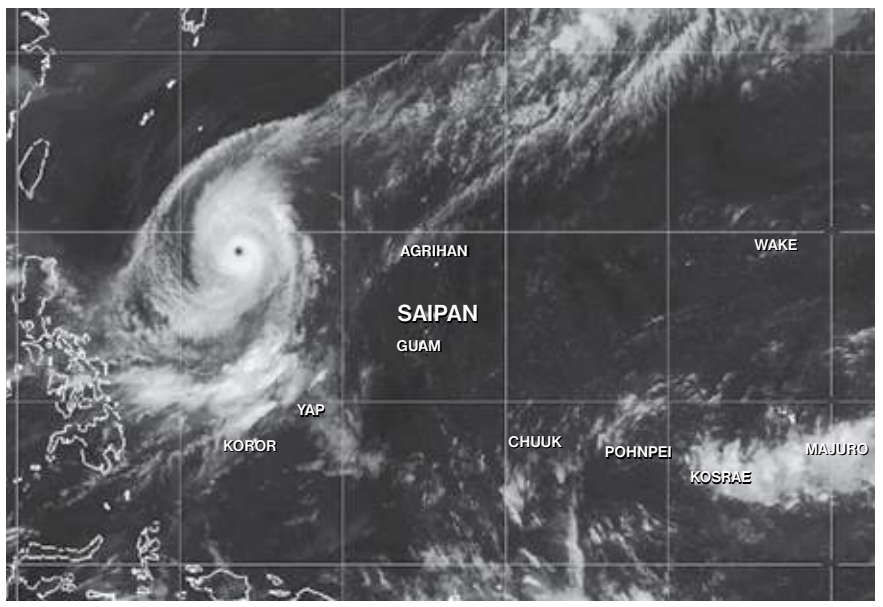
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲60	▼48
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼39
Hong Kong	Showers	▲82	▼77
Honolulu	Showers	▲84	▼76
London	Showers	▲56	▼54
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲76	▼58
Manila	Rain	▲87	▼76
Melbourne	Partly Sunny	▲73	▼51
Miami	Showers	▲83	▼74
New York	Partly Sunny	▲63	▼50
Osaka	Partly Sunny	▲69	▼50
Paris	Cloudy	▲58	▼51
Pusan	Sunny	▲69	▼49
Rome	Sunny	▲59	▼44
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲64	▼46
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲67	▼54
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲61	▼46
Tokyo	Partly Sunny	▲72	▼59
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲70	▼52

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
2:43 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
9:29 AM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
3:06 PM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
8:03 PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Super typhoon Lupit (22W) is centered at 19N134E. Heavy rain and scattered thunderstorms are within 100 miles of the center while scattered showers and thunderstorms extend out from Lupit up to 300 miles. For more information on Lupit, see bulletins issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM and JTWC under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW. Convergent west to southwest winds to the south of Lupit are causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms in an area from 14N136E to 13N140E to 6N143E to 11N130E back to 14N136E. A weak cold front extends southwestward from 25N140E to 24N135E. Scattered showers are along and up to 75 miles north of the front. A near-equatorial trough extends southeastward from 10N147E across Chuuk to 4N160E then eastward to a weak circulation south of Majuro near 3N173E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms across Kosrae and the Marshall Islands are within 125 miles of a line from 5N163E to 7N171E to 5N177E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:10 AM	5:54 PM
Wednesday	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:53 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:52 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:43 AM	7:15 PM
Wednesday	8:39 AM	8:05 PM
Thursday	9:35 AM	8:57 PM
Friday	10:28 AM	9:50 PM
Saturday	11:17 AM	10:43 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 5, 6
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:35pm	1:40am+1	2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
NW100	8:40pm	1:20am+1	1, 4, 5, 7 effective Oct 1

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Island Snapshots

AARA FUNDING

PSS Commissioner Rita Sablan, U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), and Assistant Secretary of Education Gabriella Gomez are all smiles on Friday, as the Department of Education released the first $28 million of State Fiscal Stabilization Funds for the Commonwealth. A total of $24 million of the award goes to PSS to hire teachers, repair classrooms and provide laptops for public and private high school students. The CNMI should receive the final $16 million of stabilization funds by the end of the year. All together the $44 million grant is the largest ever for the Commonwealth.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

RELIEF DRIVE

A student of the Upward Bound Program on Tinian and his mother pose with Northern Marianas College Tinian Instructional Site staff for a photo at the booth they set up at their Tsunami & Typhoon Relief Drive to collect canned goods and clothing items for victims of the recent natural disasters in American Samoa and the Philippines. The booth was set up near the Triangle Grounds on Tinian.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGNING

Shannon Frank Reeves, left, director of the Republican National Committee's State and Local Development based in Washington, D.C., gives 23 members of the CNMI Republican Party some pointers on how to go about their campaigning for the Nov. 7 general elections and future polls, during a presentation at the Hofschneider-Palacios campaign headquarters in As Lito. Reeves, who is visiting Saipan for the first time, said the Republican National Committee is willing and ready to assist the local GOP in the areas of training and finance. Also in the photo are former Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Juan L. Babauta and House Vice Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan).

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

CHARTER CHANGE

David Sablan of the Citizens for Change of Article 12 Inc., a non-profit group, delivers a presentation on Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution in the House chamber on Capital Hill for members of the House of Representatives and Senate.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

SUNSET CRUISE

Jerry Alcantara, left, sings and plays the guitar while other crew members of the *Jade Lady III* works on the vessel's sail during a sunset cruise for tourists on Thursday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

THUNDERBIRDS

Six modern, high performance F-16s of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds team perform a flyover with trailing smoke before falling into a V-formation over Saipan International Airport. Dozens of children and adults gathered near the Saipan airport to witness the two flyovers, which lasted only a few seconds each. The Team Andersen Air Show '09, which is the first military-sponsored air show on Guam in the last five years, was originally scheduled for Wednesday last week but was postponed because of a brewing tropical storm.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

PORT VISIT

The USS *Ingraham*, home-ported in Everett, Washington, docks at the Port of Saipan in Lower Base for a weekend of rest and recreation for at least 265 officers and crew members. The USS *Ingraham* was also on Saipan in April 2008.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Business

Obama looking at all options for creating jobs

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is considering all options to create jobs, including another stimulus package, while trying to pull the economy out of a deep recession and deal with a record deficit, White House advisers said Sunday.

With more than half of the $787 billion recovery package yet to be spent, Obama aides said the administration is not ready to commit to additional measures.

"Everything is on the table," senior adviser Valerie Jarrett said.

"You've got this huge national deficit and we've got to do what we can to bring that down. At the same time, it's important to stimulate the economy," Jarrett said. "Let's wait and see. Let's let the recovery bill do its job."

Unemployment stands at 9.8 percent, with more than 4 million jobs lost this year. The deficit has reached $1.4 trillion and the national debt $11.9 trillion.

Adviser David Axelrod cited progress on reviving the economy, with expectations for growth in the third quarter this year. But he warned that the government should not make the mistake of ending its recovery initiatives too early at the risk of sending the economy back into recession.

"That doesn't mean that we don't look to the mid- and long-term for deficit reduction," Axelrod said. "We have a stimulus program in place, an economic recovery program in place, that is not even 50 percent through. We have to see that through. And we'll see what other measures we need to take."

In appearances on the Sunday news programs, the advisers criticized those Wall Street firms that are paying huge amounts in compensation and benefits after accepting taxpayer assistance. Goldman Sachs, for example, has said it has set aside $16.7 billion for compensation so far this year, more than $500,000 per employee. Citigroup is paying $5.3 billion in bonuses to its employees and Bank of America $3.3 billion.

"I think the American people have a right to be frustrated and angry," said Rahm Emanuel, the White House chief of staff.

Emanuel and the chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn., said the compensation issue comes as banks and other financial institutions oppose efforts by the president and Congress to put in place regulations designed to prevent the kind of financial meltdown that began last year.

AP

Construction workers are seen working on the new Terminal B under construction at Sacramento International Airport in Sacramento, Calif., Friday, Oct. 16, 2009.

States weigh campaign rules for the Internet age

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—To promote his recent campaign for mayor of St. Petersburg, Fla., Scott Wagman bought an ad that popped up online when anyone ran a Google search for his opponents' names.

He was hardly the first to employ the tactic, which didn't stop a rival campaign from complaining the ad did not have a "paid for by" disclaimer. The Florida Elections Commission ordered Wagman to remove it and pay a $250 fine, even though the required disclaimer was longer than the 68 characters allowed in the text of the ad, which wasn't "paid for" until someone clicked on it.

Wagman is fighting the complaint, and his case adds to an ongoing debate about how "old media" rules governing campaign spending should apply to the "new media" of the Internet age. When does a blog connected to a campaign need to disclose its allegiance? Does a candidate's personal Facebook page need a disclaimer if it is updated by a staffer? Can a campaign-related tweet—a message posted on social media site Twitter—even be regulated?

"Policing this is going to be a tremendously difficult thing, let alone writing the rules," said Edwin Bender, executive director of the National Institute on Money in State Politics, a nonprofit group in Helena, Mont.

Citing the Wagman case, Wisconsin's Government Accountability Board this month ordered staff to draft guidelines outlining the circumstances under which the public needs to know who is paying for an online ad or Web site. Several political experts said Wisconsin appears to be one of the first states where regulators are drafting such guidelines, and they expect others to follow.

Many states currently require political ads to include disclaimers saying who paid for them, although some exempt small items such as bumper stickers, buttons and T-shirts where a disclaimer is impractical.

Finance experts congregate in Manila for APAFS conference

More than three hundred finance and investment practitioners from all over the Asia-Pacific region converged in Manila last Oct. 8 and 9 for the 9th Pacific Region Investment Conference, organized by the Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies.

This was the fourth time the conference was held in Manila.

The Pacific Region Investment Conference, the premier annual investment conference in the region, features world-class experts to speak to participants composed mainly of members of fiduciary institutions, investment managers, and other finance professionals. The conference is designed to link training with regional understanding of current and relevant issues.

"We organize the Pacific Region Investment Conference each year because we foresee that Asia will be the area of growth in the future. We are working to continually equip the region and build its professional accountability as markets mature," says Daniel Roland, CIMA, director of APAFS.

Since 2000, APAFS has served to provide guidance and leadership for fiduciary institutions and investment professionals in the Asia Pacific region. The Association has embraced its role as an educator on financial literacy, consistently pushing for responsible fund management and prudent stewardship. Also, part of APAFS mission is to celebrate Asia's culture and unique practices that play a part in the region's diverse economies.

This year, Emerging Markets expert Mark Mobius headlined the conference and shed light on the outlook of investing in emerging markets.

Mobius is currently the president of Templeton Emerging Markets. Among his many recognitions, he was named one of the "Top 100 Most Powerful and Influential People" by *Asiamoney* magazine in 2006. He received his Ph.D in Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Mobius was joined by local Philippine finance leaders from premier organizations and institutions such as the Philippine Stock Exchange, Chartered Financial Analysts Society of the Philippines, Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines, the Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific, and the Trust Officers Association of the Philippines.

The 9th Pacific Region Investment Conference was held Oct. 8 and 9, 2009, at the Renaissance Makati City Hotel Manila. More than 300 participants from countries all over the Asia Pacific Region such as Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam and the Philippines congregated for two days of networking with fellow fiduciaries and listening to updates of global experts regarding issues that move the finance and economic industries. For more information, log on to www.apafs.org. ***(PR)***

Investors waiting for more clues about consumers

NEW YORK (AP)—After getting worrisome signs about consumers from bankers' earnings reports, investors will be looking at a broad range of companies this week for further insights into the outlook for the economy.

Consumer-focused companies including Apple Inc., McDonald's Corp., appliance maker Whirlpool Corp. and toy maker Hasbro Inc. are among those reporting results during the week. Airlines, drug companies and more big banks are also scheduled to release their earnings.

The market is so focused on companies' third-quarter results and their outlooks for the coming months that economic data like the September existing home sales report expected this week isn't likely to move the market much.

"Right now earnings are critical," said Channing Smith, a vice president at Capital Advisors in Tulsa, Okla. "Earnings, revenues give us a better picture of what's happening. If the economic data turns out well, its just the cherry on the sundae."

Investors got a surge of optimism from results in the early part of last week and bought stocks enthusiastically, betting that the reports still to be released by hundreds of companies would also point to a recovering economy. The buying Wednesday sent the Dow Jones industrials over 10,000 for the first time in a year.

On Thursday and Friday, though, the news from Citigroup Inc. and Bank of America Corp. gave investors a reality check, as both banks reported billions of dollars in loan losses because consumers are struggling to pay their bills. They also reiterated warnings that the losses will continue.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Product recall: Del Monte cantaloupe

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—A Northern California grocery chain has recalled several hundred cartons of cantaloupe after routine testing detected salmonella. The California Department of Public Health said Sunday that West Sacramento, Calif.-based Raley's had voluntarily recalled 1,120 cartons of Del Monte brand whole cantaloupe because the fruit may be contaminated. The affected cantaloupe was sold between Oct. 5 and Oct. 16 at Raley's, Nob Hill Foods, Bel Air and Food Sources stores in Nevada and Northern California. Stores removed the cantaloupe from the shelves on Oct. 16. State officials said there have been no reports of illnesses.

India's natural gas tied up in $17B family feud

MUMBAI, India (AP)—An ashen Anil Ambani, one of the world's richest men, stood before a clutter of television cameras, close to tears. "There is only pain, hurt and emotion," he said, his voice catching. There is also, by some calculations, at least $17 billion at stake. Anil and his brother Mukesh—ranked by Forbes magazine as the world's 34th and 7th richest individuals—are locked in an increasingly bitter fight over India's biggest natural gas deposit. The battle between the famous sons of one of India's first great capitalists has quickly become the nation's favorite family feud. It has also exposed flaws in the government's management of the crucial energy sector and the cozy relationship between officials and one of India's wealthiest families. The case is scheduled to go before India's Supreme Court on Oct. 20.

Chevron announces new gas find off Australia

SAN RAMON, Calif. (AP)—Energy company Chevron Corp. said Sunday it has made an additional discovery of natural gas in the giant Gorgon gas field being developed off the northwest coast of Australia. Chevron said the Achilles-1 exploration well, located about 100 miles off the coast, was drilled to 14,800 feet. The well is located in the WA-374-P permit area. Chevron owns half the project and is the field operator. ExxonMobil and Shell each hold a 25 percent stake.

Nation

Sheriff: Boy-in-balloon was hoax, charges expected

FORT COLLINS, Colo. (AP)—The story that a little boy had floated away in a giant helium balloon was a hoax concocted to land a reality television show, authorities said Sunday, and the boy's parents will likely face felony charges.

The stunt two weeks in the planning was a marketing ploy by Richard and Mayumi Heene, who met in acting school in Hollywood and have appeared on the ABC reality show "Wife Swap," Larimer County Sheriff Jim Alderden said. The Heenes have reportedly been working on a reality TV deal in Los Angeles.

Investigators are examining the possibility of other conspirators, "including the possibility that even some of the media outlets may have had some knowledge about this," Alderden said.

Documents show that a media outlet has agreed to pay money to the Heenes with regards to the balloon incident, Alderden said. He didn't name the media outlet, but said it was a show that blurs "the line between entertainment and news." It wasn't clear whether the deal was signed before or after the alleged hoax, or whether that media outlet was a possible conspirator.

Six-year-old Falcon Heene may not have even been hiding in the rafters of the family's garage during the intense five-hour search for him Thursday, Alderden said.

"For all we know he may have been two blocks down the road playing on the swing in the city park," the sheriff said.

The stunt temporarily shut down Denver International Airport and caused the National Guard to scramble two helicopters in an attempt to rescue the boy, who was believed to be inside the flying-saucer shaped homemade balloon that hurtled more than 50 miles across two counties.

The drama played out on live television to millions of viewers worldwide. When the balloon landed without the boy in it, officials thought he had fallen out and began grim search for his body.

In fact, the balloon—which was held together with duct tape—would not have been able to launch with the 37-pound-boy inside, Colorado State University physics professor Brian Jones has determined.

The parents weren't under arrest, the sheriff said. He said he expected to recommend charges of conspiracy, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, making a false report to authorities and attempting to influence a public servant. Federal charges were also possible.

The most serious charges are felonies and carry a maximum sentence of six years in prison and a $500,000 fine. Alderden said they would be seeking restitution for the costs, though he didn't have an estimate.

The cost for just the two military helicopters was about $14,500.

Richard and Mayumi Heene were shopping for snacks at Walmart with their three sons as Alderden told reporters that the whole thing was a hoax.

Richard Heene told The Associated Press he was "seeking counsel."

"This thing has become so convoluted," Heene said as tears welled in his eyes. He said his wife was holding together better than he was.

The couple's attorney, David Lane, issued a statement later Sunday saying the Heenes were willing to voluntarily turn themselves in to face charges. Lane said he advised the family against making public statements.

The sheriff said all three of the Heenes' sons knew of the hoax, but likely won't face charges because of their ages. The oldest son is 10. One of the boys told investigators he saw his brother get in the balloon's box before it launched.

Heene, 48, a storm chaser and inventor, has described himself as an amateur scientist, but Alderden said Heene has only a high school education.

"He may be nutty, but he's not a professor," Alderden said.

Richard Heene, left, leads his sons Falcon, center, and Ryo out of their home in Fort Collins,, Colo., early on Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009. AP

ACROSS THE NATION

UConn mourns stabbing death of football player

STORRS, Conn. (AP)—A Connecticut football player who was an expectant father was stabbed to death early Sunday after an on-campus dance, just hours after helping his team to a homecoming victory. Jasper Howard, 20, of Miami, and another student were stabbed during a fight after a fire alarm was pulled during a university sanctioned dance at the UConn Student Union just after 12:30 a.m., police said. Police had not identified a suspect or released the name of the other victim.

Convicted Ohio priest says he didn't murder nun

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—A Roman Catholic priest imprisoned for killing a nun 29 years ago told a newspaper that he is innocent, but a prosecutor and the victim's nephew wondered why he is only making the claim now. The Rev. Gerald Robinson, now 71, was convicted in 2006 for killing Sister Margaret Ann Pahl in 1980 by strangling her and stabbing her 31 times in a Toledo hospital chapel. Church historians have said it's the only documented case of a Catholic priest killing a nun. "I didn't do this," Robinson told The Columbus Dispatch for Sunday editions. "I have no idea why anyone would do it."

Air Force: Missing pilot had no chance to eject

SHAW AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. (AP)—Authorities say an Air Force pilot had no opportunity to eject after a collision between two F-16 fighter jets offshore, and Coast Guard searchers say they've shifted efforts to finding his body and recovering the plane's wreckage. A search for Capt. Nicholas Giglio, missing since Thursday night's crash, had involved Coast Guard helicopters, ships and private volunteers scouring some 8,000 square miles of Atlantic waters. Authorities said Saturday investigators believe Giglio died instantly during a night training exercise. The Coast Guard had spent nearly two days conducting the search for the pilot in waters about 40 miles northeast of Charleston. Capt. Michael McAllister, director for the search, described that effort as exhaustive.

3 runners die competing in the Detroit marathon

DETROIT (AP)—A half-marathoner and two other runners died during the Detroit marathon on Sunday, organizers said. Daniel Langdon, 36, of Laingsburg, collapsed at about 9:02 a.m. between the 11- and 12-mile markers, said Rich Harshbarger, vice president of consumer marketing for the Detroit Media Partnership. Rick Brown, 65, of Marietta, Ohio, collapsed at 9:17 a.m., near where Langdon went down, and 26-year-old Jon Fenlon of Waterford collapsed at about 9:18 a.m., just after finishing the half-marathon in 1:53:37, Harshbarger said. It was unclear whether Brown and Langdon were participating in the 13.1-mile half marathon or the full race.

Adviser: Obama awaiting finished health care bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House will not commit to health care legislation that would cap insurance premiums or tax benefits, taking a wait-and-see approach as congressional negotiators seek a deal, advisers said Sunday.

President Barack Obama will not demand that a final bill include a government-run plan as a way of driving down costs through competition, though that's his preference, they said.

"There will be compromise. There will be legislation, and it will achieve our goals: helping people who have insurance get more security, more accountability for the insurance industry, helping people who don't have insurance get insurance they can afford, and lowering the overall cost of the system," aide David Axelrod said.

Asked on ABC's "This Week" if Obama would sign a bill that ended the antitrust exemption for the insurance industry and allow caps on premiums, Axelrod said, "We'll see what Congress does."

A 1945 law lets states regulate insurers without federal interference.

Axelrod was similarly noncommittal when pressed about whether Obama would support taxing insurance benefits, a proposal that has brought criticism from labor unions and others. "I think that this thing is going to be adjusted as we go along," he said, "so let's see what the final proposal says before we talk about what the president will or won't sign."

The White House and lawmakers are trying to blend five House and Senate committee versions of health care legislation into a bill that will pass both houses. Near unanimous Republican opposition is expected.

House Democrats are insisting on a government-run plan, known as a public option. In the Senate, Republicans and some Democrats oppose the measure, meaning inclusion of the public option would foreclose winning the 60 votes needed to advance a bill.

Obama "will obviously weigh in when it's important to weigh in" on the possibility of a public option, chief of staff Rahm Emanuel said. Added Obama senior adviser Valerie Jarrett: "He's not demanding that it's in there. He think it's the best possible choice."

The president promoted his health care initiative Saturday in his weekly radio and online address and challenged policy makers to resist special interests. He accused the insurance industry of "filling the airwaves with deceptive and dishonest ads" and paying for studies "designed to mislead the American people."

Largest turtle-linked salmonella outbreak detailed

CHICAGO (AP)—Two girls who swam with pet turtles in a backyard pool were among 107 people sickened in the largest salmonella outbreak blamed on turtles nationwide, researchers report.

The 2007-08 outbreak involved mostly children in 34 states; one-third of all patients had to be hospitalized. In many cases, parents didn't know that turtles can carry salmonella.

Despite a 1975 ban on selling small turtles as pets, they continue to be sold illegally.

The American Veterinary Medical Association estimates that the number of pet turtles nationwide doubled from 950,000 in 1996 to almost 2 million in 2006.

"It's very easy to think of turtles as being a very gentle and nice pet," but many carry salmonella, without showing any signs, said Julie Harris, a scientist at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the report's lead author.

Salmonella in turtle feces can end up on their shells and body, and can spread to people who handle them.

An infected turtle can spread the same strain of salmonella to others during shipping, which may be how the outbreak occurred. Turtles involved were bought at pet shops, flea markets, from street vendors and online. The Food and Drug Administration contacted retailers involved and their investigation is ongoing, the report said.

"Continued, collective efforts are needed, both on state and federal levels, to enforce the ban and protect public health," the report said. It appears in October's Pediatrics, released Monday.

ON THE NET:

Pediatrics: http://www.pediatrics.org

CDC: http://www.cdc.gov/Features/ReptilesSalmonella/

Ala. mayor accused of taking Rolex, other bribes

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—Mayor Larry Langford, who could be tossed out of office and go to prison if convicted of federal bribery charges, recently offered some advice to a new Birmingham City Council member.

"The illusion of power is the most dangerous drug on the planet," Langford said. "A little bit of power—nothing intoxicates like it."

Last week's comment may sound a lot like the government's opening argument against Langford, 61, the most recent in a long line of prominent names in the state Democratic Party to face corruption charges. Jury selection begins Monday.

Prosecutors claim a greedy, power-drunk Langford accepted bribes totaling some $235,000—a chunk of it for upscale clothes and jewelry—while serving as president of the Jefferson County Commission before he was elected mayor. In exchange, they say, Langford steered $7.1 million in bond business to a political crony's investment banking firm.

Those bond deals and others turned sour during the credit crunch and brought on a financial crisis that has pushed Alabama's most populous county to the brink of filing what would be the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history. The current commissioners have repeatedly extended credit agreements as they struggle to pay back $3.9 billion.

Asia

Typhoon to spare Manila, north braces for disaster

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine disaster response agencies packed tons of food aid, readied helicopters and prepared a massive evacuation plan in the mountainous north Sunday as another typhoon threatened the country after back-to-back storms killed more than 800 people.

Typhoon Lupit, roaring over the Pacific Ocean with sustained winds of 108 mph (175 kph) and gusts of 130 mph (210 kph), will likely spare the capital, Manila, but could slam into other parts of the north in about three days, chief weather forecaster Prisco Nilo said.

Lupit—a Filipino word for cruel—is the 18th tropical storm to threaten the country this year. About 20 typhoons or storms lash the Philippines annually.

The Philippines is still grappling with the deadly aftermath of Tropical Storm Ketsana, which struck Sept. 16 and triggered the worst flooding in Manila in over 40 years. It was followed by Typhoon Parma on Oct. 3, which lingered for a week, drenching northern mountain provinces and causing landslides that buried many homes.

AP

A Filipino boy eats at an evacuation center in Marikina Sports Park, east of Manila, Philippines, on Sunday Oct. 18, 2009.

The two storms killed 818 people and inundated the homes of more than 7 million. Hundreds were still in emergency shelters in landslide-hit Benguet province, 130 miles (210 kilometers) north of Manila, when news of the new typhoon spread.

About 85 tons of rice, canned sardines, noodles, blankets and mosquito nets were being packed and will be delivered to the north, including in Benguet, a gold-mining and vegetable-producing mountain region of more than 300,000 people where recent landslides blocked transport, the National Disaster Coordination Council said.

SKorea's top diplomat urges NKorea to disarm

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's foreign minister pressed North Korea to take real steps toward nuclear disarmament and immediately rejoin stalled nuclear talks, expressing doubt Monday over the regime's latest conciliatory gestures.

After months of tension on its nuclear and missile programs, the North is reaching out to Seoul and Washington by releasing detainees and offering direct talks with the U.S. The country, however, sent mixed signals to the outside world last week by conducting missile tests and threatening a war.

"In spite of these gestures, however, there is no real ground as yet to view the North's softening stance as an indication of fundamental change in its position on the nuclear issue," Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan told a Seoul forum.

Yu said that a barrage of short-range missile tests from North Korea last week and an announcement last month that the regime is enriching uranium contradict recent goodwill gestures. Uranium enrichment would provide North Korea with a second way to make nuclear bombs.

Yu said North Korea must first take "substantial" disarmament measures and return to stalled six-party disarmament talks involving the two Koreas, the U.S., China, Russia and Japan.

He said South Korea remains open to dialogue with the North but will continue to enforce sanctions on the country for its May nuclear test to get the North to return to the talks.

Rising seas threaten Shanghai, other major cities

SHANGHAI (AP)—This city of 20 million rose from the sea and grew into a modern showcase, with skyscrapers piercing the clouds, atop tidal flats fed by the mighty Yangtze River.

Now Shanghai's future depends on finding ways to prevent the same waters from reclaiming it.

Global warming and melting glaciers and polar ice sheets are raising sea levels worldwide, leaving tens of millions of people in coastal areas and on low-lying islands vulnerable to flooding and other weather-related catastrophes.

Shanghai, altitude roughly 3 meters (10 feet) above sea level, is among dozens of great world cities—including London, Miami, New York, New Orleans, Mumbai, Cairo, Amsterdam and Tokyo—threatened by sea levels that now are rising twice as fast as projected just a few years ago, expanding from warmth and meltwater. Estimates of the scale and timing vary, but Stefan Rahmstorf, a respected expert at Germany's Potsdam Institute, expects a 1-meter (3-foot) rise in this century and up to 5 meters (15 feet) over the next 300 years.

Chinese cities are among the largest and most threatened. Their huge populations—the Yangtze River Delta region alone has about 80 million people—and their rapid growth into giant industrial, financial and shipping centers could mean massive losses from rising sea levels, experts say.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Afghan opposition: Karzai delaying election probe

KABUL (AP)—Afghanistan's political opposition accused President Hamid Karzai on Sunday of delaying release of a U.N.-backed investigation into fraud in the August presidential balloting and pressuring election officials to declare him the winner. International demands mounted for Karzai to agree to a runoff if the fraud probe shows that he failed to win a majority of votes in the Aug. 20 ballot. A top U.S. official warned that a decision on whether to send thousands more American troops to battle Taliban-led insurgents must wait until the Afghan election crisis is resolved and a credible government is installed in Kabul.

Thai billboard with Hitler causes diplomatic flap

BANGKOK (AP)—A highway billboard using a saluting Adolf Hitler to advertise a Thai wax museum has been covered up after complaints from the Israeli and German ambassadors, the museum's manager said Sunday. "The idea came from a creative (advertising) agency, and we did not mean to cause any offense," said Somporn Naksuetrong, the manager of the Louis Tussaud's Waxworks in the seaside resort town of Pattaya. The billboard, which in Thai language said, "Hitler is not dead," had been up for several weeks on the main road from the capital Bangkok to Pattaya and was meant to promote the museum's planned opening next month.

World

Iran bombing kills 5 Revolutionary Guard leaders

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—A suicide bomber killed five senior commanders of the powerful Revolutionary Guard and at least 37 others Sunday near the Pakistani border in the heartland of a potentially escalating Sunni insurgency.

The attack—which also left dozens wounded—was the most high-profile strike against security forces in an outlaw region of armed tribal groups, drug smugglers and Sunni rebels known as Jundallah, or Soldiers of God.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad promised sharp retaliation. But a sweeping offensive by authorities is unlikely.

Iranian officials have been reluctant to open full-scale military operations in the southeastern border zone, fearing it could become a hotspot for sectarian violence with the potential to draw in al-Qaida and Sunni militants from nearby Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The region's top prosecutor, Mohammad Marzieh, was quoted by the semi-official ISNA news agency as saying Jundallah claimed responsibility for the blast in the Pishin district near the Pakistani border.

There was no immediate statement directly from the group, which has carried out sporadic kidnappings and attacks in recent years—including targeting the Revolutionary Guard—to press their claims of persecution in the Shiite government and officials.

In May, Jundallah said it sent a suicide bomber into a Shiite mosque in the southeastern city of Zahedan, killing 25 worshippers.

The latest attack, however, would mark the group's highest-level target. It also raised questions about how the attacker breached security around such a top delegation from the Revolutionary Guard—the country's strongest military force, which is directly linked to the ruling clerics under Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

UK's Brown urges progress on climate pact

LONDON (AP)—British Prime Minister Gordon Brown will warn representatives of the world's biggest economies Monday that efforts to agree on a new global pact to tackle climate change are a historic test of international cooperation.

Brown planned to address the second day of Major Economies Forum talks in London, and tell delegates that any failure to strike a new deal on reducing the gas emissions causing global warming would be catastrophic.

The British leader plans to personally attend a December meeting in Copenhagen—intended to cap two years of negotiations on a global climate change treaty—and has called on fellow leaders to join him.

"In every era there are only one or two moments when nations come together and reach agreements that make history," Brown planned to say, according to excerpts of his speech released in advance. "Copenhagen must be such a time. There are now fewer than 50 days to set the course of the next 50 years and more."

Wealthy nations are seeking broad emissions cuts from all countries in a successor pact to the Kyoto Protocol on carbon dioxide emissions. Developing countries say industrialized nations should carry most of the burden, and complain that tough limits on emissions are likely to hamper their economic growth.

Hurricane Rick weakens in Pacific, still dangerous

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Hurricane Rick weakened in the eastern North Pacific on Sunday but was still a dangerous storm that forecasters said could veer into resorts at the tip of the Baja California Peninsula by midweek.

Rick's winds had decreased by Sunday night to 145 mph (230 kph), making it a Category 4 hurricane—down from its peak winds of 180 mph (285 kph) as a Category 5 storm, the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida, said.

The storm is expected to weaken further over the next couple of days, but forecasters said a hurricane watch may be required for parts of southern Baja California on Monday. They said they expected Rick to make landfall by midweek as a Category 1 or Category 2 hurricane, with winds ranging from 74 mph (120 kph) to 110 mph (177 kph).

As of 11 p.m. EDT Sunday (0300 GMT Monday), the eye was centered about 410 miles (660 kilometers) south of the peninsula town of Cabo San Lucas. The storm was moving toward the northwest near 13 mph (20 kph).

Rick threatened to disrupt a major sport-fishing tournament scheduled to start Wednesday in Los Cabos, where hundreds of fishermen—mainly Americans—were gathering.

Los Cabos' civil defense director, Francisco Cota, said authorities were already weighing plans to open storm shelters and start police patrols urging residents of low-lying neighborhoods to evacuate.

WORLD BRIEFS

Militants killed in Saudi shootout were local

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—The two al-Qaida militants killed in a recent shootout sneaked into Saudi Arabia from Yemen and were planning to carry out a massive attack, the Interior Ministry spokesman said Sunday. Four explosive belts—three of them ready to use—were found in the car used by the militants in Tuesday's shootout which suggests that at least four people were going to take part in the attack, ministry spokesman Brig. Gen. Mansour al-Turki told The Associated Press. He said six Yemeni accomplices who were coordinating with the two militants—Youssef al-Shihri and Raed al-Harbi—were also arrested.

Botswana's long-governing party sweeps elections

GABORONE, Botswana (AP)—Botswana's governing party, which has been in power for more than four decades, once again swept parliamentary elections that regional observers deemed free and fair, the country's independent electoral commission announced Sunday. The overwhelming legislative majority cleared the way for President Seretse Ian Khama to continue as leader of the world's largest diamond-producing country. The commission announced Sunday that the Botswana Democratic Party had won 45 out of the 57 parliamentary seats in Friday's vote, a peaceful election all but eclipsed by political struggles and violence elsewhere in Africa. The party has been in power since Botswana won independence from Britain in 1966.

Irish, Ugandan aid workers freed in Darfur

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP)—Two foreign aid workers seized at gunpoint more than three months ago in Sudan's Darfur were released Sunday by their captors in the third—and longest—kidnapping of aid workers in the arid region. The Irish and Ugandan women were in good health and were having medical checkups at a hospital in northern Darfur, said Sudan's state minister for humanitarian affairs, Abdel-Baqi al-Jailani. The two women were taken hostage on July 3 in the western region of Sudan, where government forces have been battling rebels for more than six years. The Irish woman, Sharon Commins, 33, and her Ugandan colleague, Hilda Kuwuki, 42, were working for Irish humanitarian aid agency GOAL.

Overdrive

BENTLEY CONTINENTAL SUPERSPORTS

Technology could trickle down

By WARREN BROWN
THE WASHINGTON POST

MILFORD, PA.—The Bentley Continental Supersports coupe is a car embracing extremes—maximum power and speed with a minimized contribution to global warming.

As such, it is a high-performance green automobile—equipped with a 621-horsepower, 12-cylinder engine. It moves from 0 to 60 miles per hour in 3.7 seconds—burning petroleum or using alcohol derived from food crops, or from industrial or agricultural wastes.

The Supersports performs splendidly at racing venues, such as the Monticello Motor Club, a country club with a 4.1-mile racetrack, 90 minutes from Manhattan and a drive of nearly equal duration from this quiet hamlet in Pennsylvania's Pike County.

But the Supersports also does well when autumn weather in these parts turns chilly and damp, lacing the landscape with lots of slippery roads.

It is a curious automobile—part luxury ride, part science project, the progeny of a small group of engineers and designers given generous leeway to experiment with new technologies, materials and fuels in pursuit of a daily-use automobile with racetrack prowess and environmental bragging rights.

THE WASHINGTON POST

The Bentley Continental Supersports coupe is a car embracing extremes. It boasts maximum power and speed with a minimized contribution to global warming. It's part luxury car, part science project.

"It began as an experiment," said Brian Gush, director of engineering for the underpinnings (chassis, engines, transmissions) of Bentley cars.

Bentley's parent company, Volkswagen of Germany, wants to reduce the environmental burden of Bentley cars without harming Bentley's reputation for speed and handling. It is an engineering conundrum created by governments worldwide demanding more environmentally friendly automobiles.

The trick for Bentley and other manufacturers of exotic automobiles—including Italy's Lamborghini and Ferrari—is to deliver those cars without destroying what originally made them desirable.

Bentley's engineers and designers attacked the problem by attacking weight—substituting carbon fiber and other high-strength, lightweight materials wherever possible—notably in the car's two seats, which are thin but elegantly stitched and comfortable and ensconced in carbon-fiber shells.

Strong but lighter-weight chassis components were used where practicable. Carbon-ceramic brakes—strong, sure, expensive—were added as standard equipment. A six-speed automatic transmission, which also can be shifted manually, was redesigned to shift 50 percent faster with discernibly less effort than its predecessor.

When all of the experimenting and tinkering was done, the result was something the folks at Volkswagen and Bentley had not expected—"the extreme Bentley," they called it, the Supersports—the fastest Bentley ever, but one that, ironically, is also the cleanest and one of the least guzzling Bentleys ever at 12 miles per gallon in the city and 19 miles per gallon on the highway.

When fueled with 85 percent ethanol, increasingly available at service stations in the United States, the Supersports produces 70 percent less globally warming carbon dioxide. That's a well-to-wheel estimate, meaning the amount of carbon dioxide emitted from ethanol production to delivery to the Bentley's fuel tank, and through the car's burning and exhaustion of that fuel. Critics understandably will cite that as semantic gaming. But, from this column's perspective, it's a big step in the right direction.

It's an expensive car, one that probably will cost considerably north of $250,000 when its actual retail prices are set. Understandably, that also will set many eyes to rolling.

NUTS & BOLTS

BY WARREN BROWN
THE WASHINGTON POST

THE BOTTOM LINE
It's extreme, and I love it. If you drive it, you'll love it, too.

COMPLAINT
The people who can afford the Supersports aren't terribly worried about costs for gasoline or ethanol. They therefore are not bothered by the Supersports' still-egregious fuel consumption.

HEAD-TURNING QUOTIENT
It is assumed that if you can afford this car, you also can afford the best of lawyers. Either that or you will keep this car on the track. On the highway, it's a head-turning, ticket-writing magnet for police.

BODY STYLE/ LAYOUT
The Bentley Continental Supersports is a luxury, front-engine, all-wheel-drive, two-seat sports coupe designed primarily for high-performance driving, preferably on a track. It and cars like it are why private motor raceways exist.

ENGINE/ TRANSMISSION
It is equipped with a 6-liter, W-12 engine (think of two V-6 engines joined) that develops 621 horsepower at 6,000 rpm and 590 foot-pounds of torque at 1,700 rpm. Note: You haven't felt "whoosh!" until you've felt this.

CAPACITIES
Two seats for two people. Maximum cargo capacity is 13 cubic feet. The fuel tank holds 23.8 gallons of gasoline, 85 percent ethanol, or any combination of gasoline and ethanol.

MILEAGE
Not much.

SAFETY
Standard equipment includes cross-drilled carbon-ceramic disc brakes front and rear, anti-lock brake protection and electronic brake-force distribution, side and head air bags, electronic stability and traction control.

PRICE
The Bentley Continental Supersports coupe goes on sale this fall for the 2010 model year. Prices are not set at this writing. Edmunds.com and Bentley officials estimate that the final retail price will be near $275,000.

Nissan 370Z: A car that masters zigzags

By WARREN BROWN
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—To be young again, to thrill to the "me" of the moment—the Nissan 370Z is good for that. Like most sports cars, it makes no practical sense. It is what disappears when "me" becomes "we," unless "we" are rich and can afford toys.

The 370Z, be it hardtop coupe or convertible, is a toy—a motorized joy for all who love the game of Open Roads. It is a game because there are no such roads, not really, not in any metropolitan area in the United States.

The trick for urbanites engaged in such play is to find what rarely exists before the sun rises and what seldom is available until long after it sets—a highway hospitable to fantasy. That is what I arose to look for one early autumn morning.

"Where are you going?" asked my wife, Mary Anne, as I tried to sneak from our Virginia bedroom.

It was the voice of a woman long accustomed to life with a foolish man.

"For a drive," I said.

"At 4:20 in the morning?!" she shouted.

"Traffic should be light," I said.

"You're insane," she said.

She was right, of course.

But insanity in pursuit of an uncluttered road to enjoy an automobile built solely for the joy of driving is a virtue. The Nissan Z-Car, since its introduction in the United States in October 1969, has always been such an automobile.

It was conceptual genius: Develop and build a fast, light sports car purposefully engineered for performance driving and little else. Aim it primarily at young men unfettered by families, mortgages or health-care expenses. Price it at $3,526—its actual base price at the time.

Of course, it sold.

But times changed. There was a huge explosion of "me" into "we." We became concerned about the air we breathe and the harmful effects of vehicle exhaust upon that air. We worried about our nation's growing dependence on foreign oil and the egregious amounts of the stuff consumed by models such as the Z-Car and its peers. Prices rose. Economies sank. By 1996, the Z-Car was out of production, but clearly not forgotten, as it gained in price and prominence.

It reappeared in 2002 with much of the performance and some of the styling that carried it through the late 1990s, but with a base price of $26,000—substantially higher than its 1996 sticker, but well below the let-the-money-roll pricing of the 1990s—when it ran $30,000 to $50,000.

It rekindled dreams. And I did with the 2002 350Z what I did with the current (2009/2010) 370Z model. I took it for a long drive—through Southern California in 2002 and through Virginia's Shenandoah Valley in 2009.

Both cars possessed essential Z-ness—fast off the throttle, wonderfully precise handling in curves, masterful acceleration on open roads when found, sensuous exhaust notes, sure-stop braking.

NUTS & BOLTS

By WARREN BROWN
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

THE BOTTOM LINE
The Nissan Z-Car remains one of the best "affordable" sports automobiles, either as the currently available 370Z coupe or 370Z convertible. But it does not run at the top of sports car heap. For that, you'd have to spend a couple of hundred thousand dollars more for a 2010 Bentley Continental Super Sport. More on that later.

RIDE, HANDLING AND ACCELERATION
It's a small sports car. You feel the road, which means you really feel it when the road is rough. Handling and acceleration are excellent.

HEAD-TURNING QUOTIENT
Still high after all these years. It turns heads instantly.

BODY STYLE/LAYOUT
The Nissan 370Z is a compact, front-engine, rear-wheel-drive, two-seat coupe available as a hardtop or convertible.

ENGINE/TRANSMISSIONS
It is equipped with a 3.7-liter, 24-valve V-6 that develops 332 horsepower at 7,000 RPM and 270 foot-pounds of torque at 5,200 RPM. The engine is mated to a standard six-speed manual transmission. A six-speed automatic transmission is available.

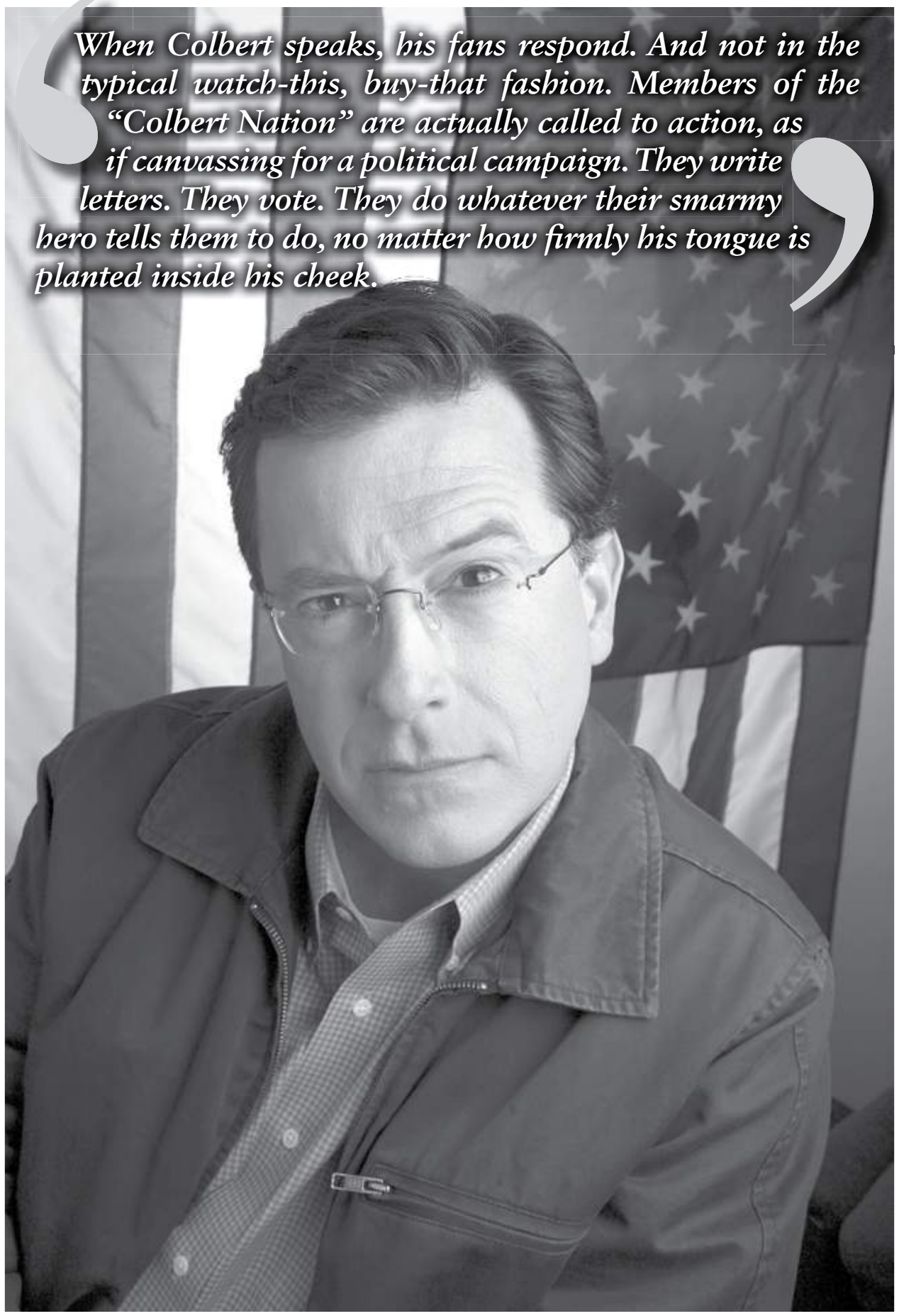
CAPACITIES
It has seats for two people and trunk space for barely 7 cubic feet of their luggage. The fuel tank holds 19 gallons of recommended premium unleaded gasoline.

MILEAGE
You get 18 mpg city and 26 mpg highway on traffic-free roads with excellent surfaces with driver only.

SAFETY
Standard equipment includes front and rear ventilated disc brakes, electronic stability and traction control, electronic braking assistance for extra safety in panic stops, antilock braking protection, side and head air bags.

PRICE
The base price on the 2009 Nissan 370Z Touring (practically identical to the 2010 model) is $34,460. Dealer's invoice on that model is $31,919. Price as tested is $40,030, including $4,850 in options (19-inch diameter wheels and other "sports" extras, hard-drive navigation system) and a $720 destination charge. Dealer's price as tested is $36,846. Prices are sourced from Nissan, Edmunds.com and Cars.com, an affiliate of *The Washington Post*.

Life & Style


"When Colbert speaks, his fans respond. And not in the typical watch-this, buy-that fashion. Members of the "Colbert Nation" are actually called to action, as if canvassing for a political campaign. They write letters. They vote. They do whatever their smarmy hero tells them to do, no matter how firmly his tongue is planted inside his cheek.

Stephen Colbert, host of "The Colbert Report." LOS ANGELES TIMES

Stephen Colbert's naming fetish excites his fans

By SCOTT COLLINS

(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

Consider, if you will, the humble diving beetle. It's not a particularly glamorous creature, with its six legs and hard exoskeleton. A living being further removed from the distractions of show business could not be found, or so you might think until you run across the name of one recently discovered species: Agaporomorphus colberti.

Yes, Stephen Colbert, the endlessly mocking and jibing host of Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report," has a water beetle named after him.

And that's just the start of it. Colbert—French pronunciation, please, with a silent "t"—has had his name slapped across all manner of random objects that have no obvious connection to him or his popular nightly show. Earlier this year, math geeks named the five remaining numbers of the Sierpinski Problem—apparently an issue of great import to math geeks—in his honor. A mascot for the Saginaw (Mich.) Spirit hockey team is called Steagle Colbeagle the Eagle.

Earlier this year, Colbert won a naming contest for a NASA space module, even though the agency later backtracked and named a treadmill on the International Space Station after him instead. Last year, Colbert petitioned successfully to have his portrait hung in Washington's National Portrait Gallery (near the bathrooms, but still). At the corporate level, Ben & Jerry saluted Colbert with a new ice cream flavor. Virgin America, not wishing to be left stranded at the gate, named an A320 jet "Air Colbert."

What does a celebrity have to do to get stuff named after himself these days? Just ask, it seems.

"I guess there is one episode (of his show) where he was talking about wanting things named after him," said Quentin Wheeler, a professor at Arizona State University and director of the International Institute of Species Exploration, who with a co-author named the beetle after Colbert. "And why not? He has a popular following, obviously."

Actually, professor, to call it a "popular following" might be underselling the point. When Colbert speaks, his fans respond. And not in the typical watch-this, buy-that fashion. His followers go so much further. Members of the "Colbert Nation" are actually called to action, as if canvassing for a political campaign. They write letters. They vote. They do whatever their smarmy hero tells them to do, no matter how firmly his tongue is planted inside his cheek. Colbert has even built an entire segment around his fatuous character's ironically self-obsessed quest for tribute: "Who's Not Honoring Me Now?"

These days, even contestants on third-tier reality shows can cultivate rabid fan bases. More than 2 million people follow the Twitter posts of party girl Kim Kardashian, for example, who recently shared thoughts about weighty topics such as dental floss and her new Sam Edelman boots. But few stars can or actually do cajole their devotees to do things repeatedly in their name, even absurd, random things. In Colbert's case, especially absurd, random things.

Thus "Colbert Report" is one of the primary movers in the shifting dynamic between celebrities and their constituencies.

"What makes the show entertaining is that Stephen has essentially made it interactive, where it's not just us sitting and watching the show," said DB Ferguson, a Dallas-based Colbert fan who runs the biggest fan site, nofactzone.net. "You don't hear about 'Daily Show' fans going off and naming things after Jon Stewart. Stephen will say, 'I want this named after me—go, Nation!' And inevitably, the fans will pick that up. It's interactivity that makes the fans so passionate."

But one interesting byproduct of the relationship is the philosophical question it raises: Are fans doing all this in the name of Colbert the real man or Colbert the character?

Colbert the man is the 45-year-old bespectacled, fastidiously groomed former improv comic and "Daily Show" correspondent. Colbert the character is a put-on, a caricature of a self-righteous right-wing blowhard a la Bill O'Reilly (whom Colbert calls "Papa Bear"). Stretching partisanship past the point of ridiculousness is a major part of "The Colbert Report's" appeal, hence such Colbert queries as, "George W. Bush—great president, or greatest president?" Earlier this month, in between goofs on the health care debate and Chicago's Olympics loss, he dwelt on the news that terrorist suspect Najibullah Zazi had planned to make explosive devices from beauty products, warning, "Soon, a government bureaucrat will come between you and your stylist."

But to Colbert the character, politics is almost beside the point, because no issue could possibly matter as much as he does. It really is all about him. This is why after he introduces a guest, he bolts from behind his anchor desk and jogs out to bask in the applause of the crowd, unable to let someone else enjoy so much as a few seconds of token appreciation.

Thus Colbert's naming fetish, which may strike a resonant chord in a nation where the rights to name taxpayer-supported sports arenas are auctioned off to the highest corporate bidders. The host has milked the concept since 2006, when he encouraged followers to vote in an online contest to rename a bridge in Budapest, Hungary. Colbert won with more than 17 million votes, although officials later pleaded that the comedian was ineligible for the honor because he was neither a speaker of Hungarian nor dead.

"It's taking the absurdity of the host-viewer relationship to its illogical level, just as the show itself does in all other facets," John Rash, an analyst for Minneapolis-based ad agency Campbell Mithun, said of the name game.

But although Colbert the character may be a total joke, fans' devotion to him is not. Ferguson, the Web site organizer, said that she and other fans think it's "hysterical" when Colbert wins naming contests and other tributes. But she pointed out that Colbert also has a serious, humanitarian side: For example, he has urged viewers to support donorschoose.org, an educational charity.

"People don't go, 'Oh, not funny, so I'm not gonna support it,' " she said. "They support it because Stephen said, 'Do it.' I think there's a very interesting respect that the fans have for when Stephen asks for real things as opposed to funny things."

What does Colbert think of all this? We asked for an interview, but his publicist declined the request without providing a reason.

Comedy Central president Michele Ganeless, however, agreed to talk, and she pointed out that the blurring between the real man and the fake character is one of the things fans like best about the show. "Because Stephen's a character on TV, versus Jon (Stewart) playing himself, it allows him to create all these layers of who he is," she said. "Stephen has created in a sense a lot of games for his fans to play."

Games, for instance, such as naming an obscure insect species after a fake talk-show host.

Wheeler, the ASU professor and beetle expert, said he's a political conservative who isn't a devoted follower of "Colbert Report," although he does enjoy it when he tunes in. His real goal is to promote science and a greater awareness of biodiversity. Colbert happened to be a convenient means to that end, he said.

Noting Colbert's Latinized name on the species classification, Wheeler added: "Two hundred years from now, people will have to deal with this, and they'll say, 'Who the hell was that?'"

Picking a fight: Obama vs Fox News

NEW YORK (AP)—President Barack Obama's communications director says it was Fox News Channel, not the White House, that picked a fight.

Yet it was Anita Dunn's words during a CNN interview last week, saying Fox is like "a wing of the Republican Party," that ignited one of the most unusual verbal volleys between a presidential administration and journalists since Vice President Spiro Agnew complained during the Nixon years about the "nattering nabobs of negativism."

Dunn's stance cheered many of the president's supporters who seethe over anti-Obama stories on Fox opinion shows, but has caused a backlash among some who say it exposed the administration as thin-skinned.

White House unhappiness had been building. The president himself said there is "one television station that is entirely devoted to attacking my administration." Fox's coverage of health care demonstrations over the summer, former administration official Van Jones and the community activists ACORN clearly knocked the administration off stride.

The White House blog attacked Fox commentator Glenn Beck for "lies."

"The administration was being attacked, members of this administration were being attacked, policies of this administration were being misrepresented—and that's a generous interpretation of how they were being described," Dunn said. "The reality is that at some point, the administration has to defend itself."

Fox has fought back hard. Network executive Michael Clemente said it was "astounding" that administration critics couldn't distinguish between news and opinion programming.

"It seems self-serving on their part," he said.

Fox said network executives have been told that no one from the administration would appear on a Fox show as a guest through the end of the year. Dunn denied there was a White House ban on Fox appearances. "We haven't said that to them," she said.

AP

In this May 23, 2008 file photo, Anita Dunn in her Washington office.

Last week on his show, Beck placed a red phone on his desk, saying it was a hot line available to Dunn anytime she thought something untrue about Obama was being said on his show.

"I don't think the White House actually wants a dialogue," Beck said. "They want to smear, isolate and destroy."

Dunn on Beck: "He's always good for a laugh."

Beck uncovered a speech Dunn had given where she referred to Mother Teresa and Mao Tse-Tung as "two of my favorite political philosophers." He said it was "insanity" that she was quoting the late Chinese dictator; Dunn said she was being ironic and got the idea for the reference from GOP strategist Lee Atwater.

Dunn also criticized Fox's Chris Wallace for referring to the administration as filled with "crybabies." ("We kept ourselves from ... responding, `I am rubber, you are glue,'" Dunn said). But there was a specific provocation: The president appeared on five Sunday morning public affairs shows on Sept. 20, every one except Wallace's.

"I would think that what this reflects is a pent-up frustration or rage at the coverage they get, not only from Fox but elsewhere," said David Gergen, a CNN commentator and former White House aide.

Gergen said he understands the temptation to go on the attack—he's done it himself—but it frequently turns out to be a mistake.

"My experience has been when the White House engages in personal or organizational attacks, it elevates the other side to virtually the same level of the White House, which is not their intent," he said. "It's going to spike Fox's ratings," which are already high this year.

If the White House wants to fight back, it's better to let surrogates do the work, he said.

Several critics have questioned the wisdom of Obama's approach.

"Whether or not you like Fox News, all of us in the press need to be concerned about the administration of President Barack Obama trying to `punish' the cable news channel for its point of view," wrote television critic David Zurawik in the Baltimore Sun.

Smithsonian plans to open human evolution hall

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History plans to open a hall next year dedicated to the story of human evolution over 6 million years, officials announced Wednesday.

The nearly $21 million Hall of Human Origins will follow milestones in history—when humans started walking upright and started speaking, for example—as well as the impact of climate change and extinction of ancient species. It's scheduled to open on March 17, 2010, marking the museum's 100th anniversary on the National Mall.

"The exploration of human origins helps to tell us about how we came about and also helps place our own existence," said curator Rick Potts, director of the museum's Human Origins Program.

This will be the Smithsonian's first permanent exhibit focused solely on human evolution. It will include hundreds of fossils, reconstructed faces of early humans and 75 cast reproductions of skulls. Interactives will show the human family tree and current research around the world.

The museum also is establishing an advisory group called the Broader Social Impacts Committee to foster discussion on how scientific and religious perspectives on human origins can be compatible. Potts said many people of deep religious faith also want to understand "how the science informs who we are. "We've been very careful ... to produce an exhibit that's welcoming for everyone," he said, "an honest place to look at the fossil evidence, to explore the fossil evidence and the archaeological evidence that informs about human evolution."

The 15,000 square-foot hall is being funded by David H. Koch, a chemical engineer and executive vice president of energy company Koch Industries Inc. of Wichita, Kan. It will be named in his honor for his $15 million donation.

Koch, a billionaire who lives in New York City, was the Libertarian Party's vice presidential candidate in 1980. He has been a donor to conservative causes as well as educational, medical and cultural groups.

His political donations haven't worried Smithsonian curators because of his emphasis on science and culture, Potts said.

"What we find in David Koch is a person who's committed to doing things for the American public that has no relationship to politics," Potts said. "He has an ability to separate that out, and so do we."

Koch, an engineer trained at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said he was pleased to support the exhibit. It was his first major contribution to the Smithsonian.

"The program has the power to influence the way we view our identity as humans, not only today, but for generations to come," he said in a statement.

Another major funder of the project is physicist Peter Buck, co-founder of Subway restaurants, who gave $15 million to fund ongoing research and to begin new education programs. The funds will establish the Peter Buck Chair in Human Origins at the museum.

Puerto Rico cancels Calle 13 concert after insult

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Puerto Rican officials said Saturday they have canceled a concert featuring Grammy-winning band Calle 13 after the group's lead singer insulted the governor and other Latin American politicians during an MTV awards show.

San Juan Mayor Jorge Santini said he was calling off the Halloween concert only because no contract had been signed for use of the city's Roberto Clemente Coliseum—not because of the comments by singer Rene Perez, known as "Residente."

But his announcement indicated the city did not want the concert, saying, "We are not interested in reaching the contract now or in the future." The city allowed a similar concert by the same promoter last year.

"Mister Perez, of Calle 13, will not be bothered by the decision ... because I don't think he is interested in benefiting economically from an event that was going to be held in a facility administered by government personnel for whom he has no respect," Santini said.

AP

Rene Perez, right, and Eduardo Cabra of Calle 13, arrive at the "Los Premios MTV 2009" on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009, at the Gibson Amphitheatre in Universal City, Calif.

During Thursday's MTV show, Perez used an offensive phrase referring to the mother of Gov. Luis Fortuno as he denounced the state's layoff of 17,000 workers.

Perez also wore a black T-shirt with a message that appeared to criticize Colombian President Alvaro Uribe for a deal to allow U.S. bases in his country—and which could be read to suggest he has paramilitary links.

The Colombian government issued a statement saying it was "indignant" about the "slanderous" message.

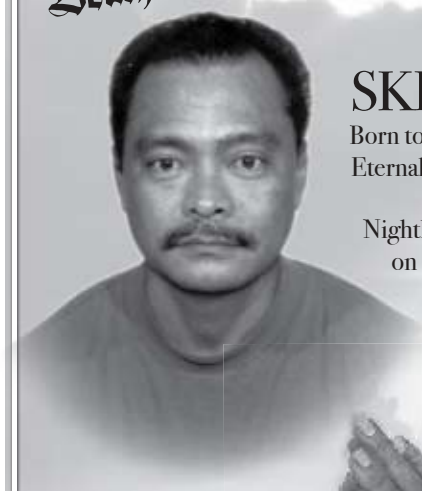
Fortuno made his first public comment about the incident while attending a political event Saturday.

"This individual disrespected all Puerto Rican women, all Puerto Rican mothers and the people of Puerto Rico in general," Fortuno told reporters. "That is what I can tell you."

Representatives of Calle 13 and production company Arco Publicidad did not immediately respond to requests for comment. City officials declined to elaborate on details of the concert contract.

Calle 13 won a Grammy for best Latin urban album last year and it has won several Latin Grammy awards.

Death and Funeral Announcement



SKIIS YOBEI
Born to Life: Dec. 20, 1960
Eternal Rest: Oct. 10, 2009

Nightly prayers will be held on October 21, 2009 to October 23, 2009 at 7:00 pm, at the residence of Poland Masaharu in As Lito.

On October 24, 2009, public viewing will begin at 8:00 am and will end at 1:00 pm at Cabrera Funeral Home, followed by burial service at Tanapag Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers.

The Family

Adults lead 'Wild Things' $32.5M box-office rumpus

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Where the Wild Things Are" proved a bigger hit with adult audiences than family crowds as the adaptation of Maurice Sendak's beloved children's book debuted at No. 1 with $32.5 million.

Moviegoers 18 and older accounted for 43 percent of the audience, while parents with children made up 27 percent, according to distributor Warner Bros.

Overture Films earned the No. 2 spot with Jamie Foxx and Gerard Butler's vengeance thriller "Law Abiding Citizen," which debuted with $21.3 million.

Expanding into wider release, Paramount's low-budget horror sensation "Paranormal Activity" moved up to No. 3 with $20.2 million.

Shot for a reported $15,000, "Paranormal Activity" outdid the premiere of Sony's fright flick "The Stepfather," which cost $19 million and played in nearly four times as many theaters but managed just a No. 5 opening with $12.3 million.

1. "**Where the Wild Things Are**," $32.5 million.
2. "**Law Abiding Citizen**," $21.3 million.
3. "**Paranormal Activity**," $20.2 million.
4. "**Couples Retreat,**" $17.9 million.
5. "**The Stepfather,**" $12.3 million.
6. "**Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs**," $8.1 million.
7. "**Zombieland,**" $7.8 million.
8. "**Toy Story**" and "**Toy Story 2**" in 3-D, $3 million.
9. "**Surrogates**," $1.92 million.
10. "**The Invention of Lying**," $1.9 million.

The results for "Where the Wild Things Are" matched the intent of director Spike Jonze, who viewed his take as a story about a child, but not necessarily a children's movie.

During production, Jonze had clashed with Warner Bros., which had wanted a more kid-friendly film. The studio gave Jonze more time and money to finish the film and ultimately backed his vision with a huge marketing campaign for "Wild Things."

"I think all sides reached a very happy compromise, and certainly Spike delivered a movie that was so true to the book, yet it generated the emotion that we felt strongly about to bring in our family audience, as well," said Dan Fellman, head of distribution for Warner.

Jonze's adaptation features newcomer Max Records as Sendak's misbehaving young protagonist, a boy who journeys to a make-believe island of monsters torn between hugging him and eating him. The live-action and voice cast includes Catherine Keener, James Gandolfini and Forest Whitaker.

In this film publicity image released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Max Records, portraying Max, right, is shown with the character Carol, voiced by James Gandolfini in "Where the Wild Things Are."

AP

A cheap acquisition at the Slamdance Film Festival, "Paranormal Activity" came out of nowhere, riding online fan buzz to a domestic total of $33.7 million so far. The movie expanded to 760 theaters, up 600 from the previous weekend, and has plenty of room to grow.

Paramount plans to expand the movie to between 1,800 and 2,000 theaters next weekend, then widen its release even farther for Halloween. It will go head-to-head with an established horror franchise as Lionsgate opens "Saw VI" on Friday.

Shot in a raw documentary style, "Paranormal Activity" is a twist on the haunted house story as a couple tries to capture on camera the strange phenomena and apparitions afflicting them.

"Paranormal Activity" might have a shot to duplicate the success of "The Blair Witch Project," a 1999 Sundance Film Festival discovery that rode Internet buzz to a $140 million domestic total.

"When you have a movie playing this well and it has such a broad appeal, it certainly tells you that is a possible outcome," said Rob Moore, vice chairman of Paramount. "I certainly couldn't predict it yet, but nothing with this movie has been predictable so far."

Hollywood had its strongest weekend yet this fall, with overall business at $141 million, up 41 percent from the same weekend last year.

"All the top five movies all did really well. It's kind of exciting to see the box-office get reignited and to see consumers excited about what's available," said Kyle Davies, head of distribution for Overture.

Fans had a good range of choices among horror tales, action, family fare and romantic comedy, including the previous weekend's No. 1 movie, Universal's "Couples Retreat," which slipped to fourth-place with $17.9 million. "Couples Retreat" raised its 10-day total to $63.3 million.

"This is why the fall is such a great time to be not only a studio executive, but a moviegoer. It's really an eclectic mix out there. You don't get this in summer," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

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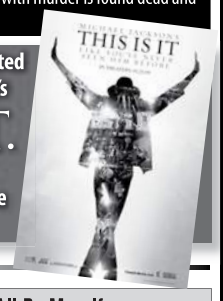
Where The Wild Things Are
Friday 4:25 7:20 9:30
Saturday 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:30
Sunday 1:30 4:25 7:20
Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:20
Katherine Keener, Mark Ruffalo
Fantasy, Children • Rated PG
Synopsis
The adventures of a young boy named Max who, after being sent to bed for misbehaving, imagines that he sails away to where the wild things are. Max is loved by the wild creatures who make him their King, though he soon longs to be back home with his family.

Law Abiding Citizen
Friday 4:00 7:00 10:00
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00
Jamie Foxx, Gerald Butler
Thriller • Rated R
Synopsis
Clyde Shelton is an upstanding family man whose wife and daughter are brutally murdered during a home invasion. When the killers are caught, Nick Rice, a hotshot young Philadelphia prosecutor, is assigned to the case. Over his objections, Nick is forced by his boss to offer one of the suspects a light sentence in exchange for testifying against his accomplice. Fast forward ten years. The man who got away with murder is found dead and Clyde Shelton coolly admits his guilt.

The Stepfather
Friday 4:20 7:15 9:55
Saturday 1:25 4:20 7:15 9:55
Sunday 1:25 4:20 7:15
Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:15
Dyland Walsh, Sela Ward
Thriller, Horror • Rated PG 13
Get your tickets now for the limited engagement of Michael Jackson's THIS IS IT.
Opening October 28th!
Tickets available at the box office or at www.gohollywood.com!



The Informant
Friday 4:30 7:25 9:40
Saturday 1:20 4:30 7:25 9:40
Sunday 1:20 4:30 7:25
Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:25
Matt Damon, Scott Bakula
Spy, Black Comedy • Rated R

I Can Do Bad All By Myself
Friday 4:15 7:30 9:45
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:30 9:45
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:30
Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:30
Taraji P. Henson, Adam Rodriguez
Comedy, Drama • Rated PG 13

Fame
Friday 4:10 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:10 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:10 7:05
Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:05
Paul Iacono, Kristy Flores
Drama, Teen, Music • Rated PG

Surrogates
Friday 4:05 7:10 9:50
Saturday 1:10 4:05 7:10 9:50
Sunday 1:10 4:05 7:10
Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:10
Bruce Willis, Radha Mitchell
Thriller, Sci-Fi • Rated PG 13
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War film big winner at Golden Rooster Awards

HONG KONG (AP)—Feng Xiaogang's war film "Assembly" was the big winner at China's Golden Rooster Awards, clinching best film, best director, best cinematography and best music.

In the every-two-year awards announced late Saturday in Nanchang, the capital of southeastern Jiangxi province, Feng's story about the heroics of a People's Liberation Army unit during the Chinese civil war in the 1940s shared the top prize with Chen Kaige's profile of late Peking Opera star Mei Lanfang, "Forever Enthralled."

Best actor went to Wu Gang, who played a legendary oil worker in "Iron Man."

One of China's top actresses, Zhou Xun, shared top female acting honors with Jiang Wenli. Zhou played a taxi driver looking for her missing boyfriend in "The Equation of Love and Death." Jiang was honored for her performance in "And the Spring Comes," a drama set against economic changes in China from 1988 to 1998.

Wang Xueqi won best supporting actor for "Forever Enthralled" and Yue Hong was named best supporting actress for the drama "A Tale of Two Donkeys."

New book examines black women's film stardom

NEW YORK (AP)—Dorothy Dandridge was the first black woman nominated for a Best Actress Oscar. Almost a half century passed before another black woman—Halle Berry—won the award.

They and three others—Pam Grier, Whoopi Goldberg and Oprah Winfrey—are subjects of the new book "Divas on Screen: Black Women in American Film."

"These women have pushed the racial boundaries for audiences, setting new standards for beauty and body type," said author Mia Mask.

She took on the book because, while black male stars are now enjoying huge success, little has been written about their female counterparts—as performers who can headline a film, said Mask, who teaches film and drama at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Dandridge was nominated for her lead role as the hedonistic factory worker in the 1954 classic "Carmen Jones," alongside Harry Belafonte.

Berry won an Oscar in 2000 for playing the wife of an executed murderer in "Monster's Ball." She also had portrayed Dandridge as a stunning femme fatale in a 1999 HBO film about Dandridge's life.

AP

In this file photo of April 11,1956, Dorothy Dandridge is shown at her press reception at the Savoy Hotel in London.

When Dandridge became a star, "she was working in an environment in which there were almost no women of color (in leading roles)," said Mask, and Dandridge "had to fit into the mold of shapely and svelte."

By the time the statuesque Grier arrived on the Hollywood scene, she could break that mold with her forceful but hip physical presence as an action heroine.

As for Winfrey, Mask said she chose her because the talk-show host's television presence catapulted her film appearances to the level of global stardom, transcending any category.

In spite of vast changes, Mask said, sore points persist in casting black women for star roles: a paucity of quality parts, and a new trend of pairing black lead actors with female leads who are not.

"Studio heads don't think two black characters will appeal to general audiences," said Mask.

She chose Dandridge and Berry "as bookends" for the time span that transformed black women in commercial films.

"We've gone from the trope of the tragic (mulatto) to biracial beauty," said Mask, who is taping a five-part series for National Public Radio to air in late October—each on one of the women in the book.

Def Leppard cancels third leg of tour

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Rock band Def Leppard has canceled the final leg of its North American tour.

The band said in a statement on its Web site that it canceled 23 shows in the U.S. and Canada "due to unforeseen personal matters." The last leg of the tour was to start Oct. 22 in Reno, Nevada, and wrap up Nov. 28 in Beaumont, Texas.

The band said it "agonized over this decision." Fans who bought tickets through Ticketmaster, by phone or over the Internet will get automatic refunds. Otherwise, refunds are available at the point of purchase.

Before canceling, Def Leppard had one the top 20 shows on tour, according to information from the trade publication Pollstar. The band was taking in nearly $700,000 a show.

Elvis' hair sells for $15K at Chicago auction

AP

In this Oct. 12, 2009 file photo, a clump of Elvis Presley's hair, given to Gary Pepper as president of the Tankers Fan Club to give to Elvis fans, is one of over 200 items in The Gary Pepper Collection of Elvis Presley Memorabilia at Leslie Hindman Auctioneers, in Chicago.

CHICAGO (AP)—A clump of hair believed to have been trimmed from Elvis Presley's head when he joined the Army in 1958 has sold for $15,000 at a Chicago auction house.

Also among the 200 Elvis-related items up for grabs at the Leslie Hindman Auctioneers in Chicago on Sunday was a shirt that once belonged to the King which sold for $52,000.

The buyer of the hair paid $15,000 plus an additional $3,300 in auction house fees.

Other items on offer included scarves, photos from the reception of Presley's 1967 wedding to Priscilla, Christmas cards he sent and lots of records. Elvis dolls and Elvis Pez dispensers numbered among the memorabilia.

All the items had belonged to the late Gary Pepper, who ran a fan club and was a friend. Pepper, who had cerebral palsy, died in 1980.

British band's singer thanks wrong country in Peru

LIMA, Peru (AP)—Pity the Peruvian rocker.

For the third time in recent years a visiting foreign pop star has belted out thanks to the wrong country. In a concert in Peru's capital Tuesday, the lead singer of British band Depeche Mode shouted "Thank you very much, Chile!" to 30,000 screaming fans. Most didn't notice Dave Gahan's slip but a video of the concert was posted on Youtube.

The country choice was particularly rankling since Peru and Chile are historically enemies with a dispute dating to a 1879-84 war between the South American neighbors.

In 2004, Mayte of the Mexican pop band RBD yelled out "Long live Chile!" in a Lima concert. She immediately apologized.

In 2003, Canadian singer Alanis Morissette yelled out "Thank you, Brazil."

Key winners at Cannes, Berlin compete for Oscars

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Top prize-winners from the Cannes and Berlin film festivals are among 65 movies competing for the foreign-language honor at the Academy Awards next March.

Oscar contenders include Germany's "The White Ribbon," director Michael Haneke's sober drama that won the main prize at May's Cannes festival. Set on the eve of World War I, the film explores the collective guilt of a small town besieged by strange acts of violence.

Also in the Oscar race is France's "A Prophet," Jacques Audiard's prison drama that was the runner-up at Cannes.

The top winner at February's Berlin festival, Claudia Llosa's "The Milk of Sorrow," is Peru's entry for the foreign-language Oscar. The film explores the fear of women abused during the Peruvian government's war with leftist guerrillas.

Italy's entry, the coming-of-age tale "Baaria," is the latest from Giuseppe Tornatore, whose "Cinema Paradiso" won the 1989 foreign-language Oscar.

Notably absent is Oscar winner Pedro Almodovar, whose "All About My Mother" took the 1999 foreign-language trophy. Spain chose Fernando Trueba's "The Dancer and the Thief" as its Oscar entry over Almodovar's "Broken Embraces," which co-stars last year's supporting-actress winner Penelope Cruz.

Nominations for the 82nd Academy Awards come out Feb. 2. The Oscars will be awarded March 7.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

'Hills' star Stephanie Pratt arrested for DUI

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Authorities say reality television star Stephanie Pratt has been arrested on suspicion of drunken driving. Los Angeles police say the 23-year-old Pratt was arrested early Sunday outside a party in Hollywood. Pratt is featured on the MTV show "The Hills" along with her brother, Spencer Pratt. She was booked at Van Nuys jail on suspicion of driving under the influence and was released a few hours later after posting $5,000 bail. "The Hills" chronicles the personal lives of a number of young people living in Los Angeles.

Mexican star infected by bad buttocks procedure

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexican rock star Alejandra Guzman says she has been hospitalized with an infection from buttocks injections she had to make herself "more beautiful." Guzman says she blames the director of the clinic, where she says she has had other cosmetic procedures without incident to make herself more attractive to a new boyfriend. Guzman spoke Wednesday with Televisa, a day after authorities arrested the director based on other clients' claims that they suffered complications. Prosecutors told Reforma newspaper the director had no cosmetology degrees, only a high school diploma. Guzman, a Latin Grammy winner with an extensive following in the U.S., said she now wants to raise awareness about cosmetic procedures so other women don't suffer.

Broadway stage manager hit with peeping charge

NEW YORK (AP)—A stage manager on the Broadway production of "South Pacific" has been charged with secretly recording an actress in her dressing room. Michael Brunner was arraigned late Friday in New York City on a charge of unlawful surveillance. He ducked questions from reporters as he left the courthouse. The New York Post reports that Brunner turned himself in for questioning after the actress found a camera phone recording her as she changed. The 54-year-old Brunner had earned praise for his work on the classic World War II musical, now running at the Vivian Beaumont Theater.

Wash. mayor sending Jon Stewart key to city

BELLINGHAM, Wash. (AP)—The mayor of Bellingham says "Daily Show" host Jon Stewart is getting a key to the city. But he won't be traveling to the northwestern Washington city to accept it. Mayor Dan Pike says representatives of Stewart's talent agency told him that Stewart appreciated the offer to come get the key but was too busy to accept. Pike made the offer after the mayor of Mount Vernon decided to give Fox News commentator Glenn Beck a key to that city. Pike tells The Bellingham Herald that he's not disappointed by Stewart's decision because the point of the offer was to spark community discussion. He says he still plans to send Stewart a key to the city.

Film, TV producer Daniel Melnick dies at 77

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Daniel Melnick, the producer who brought gutsy, smart movies like "Straw Dogs," "Network" and "Midnight Express" to the big screen, has died at his home in Los Angeles. He was 77. His son, Peter, tells the Los Angeles Times that Melnick died Tuesday of multiple ailments. He had recently undergone surgery for lung cancer. Melnick was head of production at MGM and Columbia, where he helped develop the divorce drama "Kramer vs. Kramer" and the nuclear suspense thriller "The China Syndrome." Melnick also produced the 1960s spy-spoof television series "Get Smart" that starred Don Adams as bumbling secret agent Maxwell Smart. In addition to his son, Melnick is survived by his daughter, Gabrielle Wilkerson-Melnick, and two grandchildren. Services will be private.

No excuses are needed if you don't want to drink

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I was thrilled to read "Sober in Scottsdale's" (July 28) letter about drinking. I'm a 21-year-old college student who has also struggled with choosing to be sober amidst the majority of my drunken peers. Most people my age drink only to get drunk and appear to be unable to have fun without the aid of alcohol. Every activity must be performed under the influence.

While at a nightclub, one friend asked me how I was able to "dance and have a good time without being drunk."

Abby, in your response to "Sober," you said that drinkers should "mind their own business" because "there is usually a good reason why a person doesn't drink." For me, there is no medical, metabolic or addiction problem that prevents me from consuming alcohol. But I have seen the effects it has on my peers—putting them in drunken stupors, using awful judgment, and being taken to the hospital after blacking out.

I left the college of my choice after one month because I could no longer stand hearing people in the bathroom vomiting all night long. Drinkers aren't ashamed of these displays. They brag about them to their friends the next day.

I sure hope this stage is one that will pass with age. I often long for the days when I was younger, when playing board games and sipping juice was considered a good time.

NOT DRINKING IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR NOT DRINKING: Apparently binge drinking is still a rite of passage for some college students. I would like to address one comment you made in your letter. With some young people, binge drinking is a phase that passes as they learn their limit—but with others it can be a pattern that begins in their teens and sometimes even younger. Read on for more comments from readers who feel as you do:

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I chose to be a non-drinker when my children became teenagers. I wanted to show them that I could have a good time without drinking, and I think it was an important lesson.

Parents need to seriously consider the messages they convey. I'm shocked that some allow underage drinking in their homes. One mother who had a party in her home told me the kids were drinking there for the "learning experience." I got so annoyed I asked her if she was also providing hookers, since many of the teens were probably sexually inexperienced too. She didn't know what to say.

VENTING IN SOUTH WINDSOR, CONN.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: You said there's usually a good reason why a person doesn't drink. Can't it just be my choice? I'm not an alcoholic, and I don't take medication that alcohol would react adversely with. I enjoy an occasional glass of wine or other alcoholic beverage, but I do not need to drink in order to have a good time. And there is nothing "wrong" with me if I choose to refrain from indulging. More people should make the same choice.

CHERYL IN MADISON, ALA.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I choose not to drink so I can be the designated driver should the need arise. My dad was a member of AA. And, quite frankly, I'd rather use my calories on cake than a drink.

DESIGNATED DRIVER, CEDAR PARK, TEXAS

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Why should a person need a reason not to drink? The question that should be asked is, "Why are these people drinking?" Personally, I'm with "Scottsdale." I don't like the taste of alcohol, don't like the effects and, more important, I don't like the death statistics associated with drinkers and those unfortunates who end up in their paths.

DONNA IN LAKE CITY, FLA.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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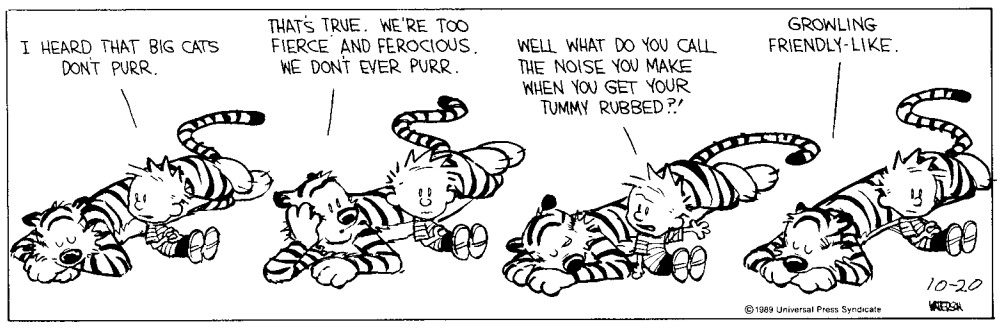
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I HEARD THAT BIG CATS DON'T PURR.
THAT'S TRUE. WE'RE TOO FIERCE AND FEROCIOUS. WE DON'T EVER PURR.
WELL WHAT DO YOU CALL THE NOISE YOU MAKE WHEN YOU GET YOUR TUMMY RUBBED?!
GROWLING FRIENDLY-LIKE.
10-20
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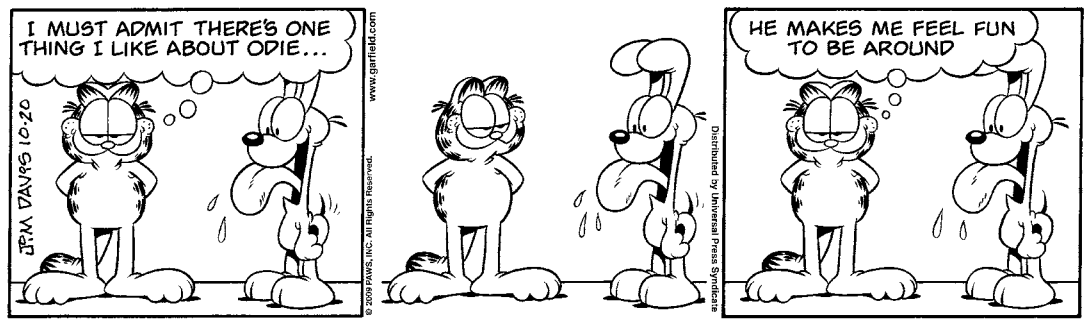
Garfield®

By Jim Davis


I MUST ADMIT THERE'S ONE THING I LIKE ABOUT ODIE...
JIM DAVIS 10-20
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HE MAKES ME FEEL FUN TO BE AROUND
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Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WE'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER.
GREAT. DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL SKILLS?
VOLUNTEER HERE
I CAN WIGGLE MY EARS. AND I DO A DECENT CAGNEY IMPERSONATION.
I MEAN...
...AND FEIGN INTEREST IN OTHER PEOPLE'S SELF-ABSORBED STORIES.
OH... I...
...AND I'M GREAT AT APOLOGIES. ASK MY WIFE.
WELL, IF IT DOESN'T WORK OUT WITH US, YOU SOUND WELL QUALIFIED FOR POLITICS.
VOLUNTEER
10-20
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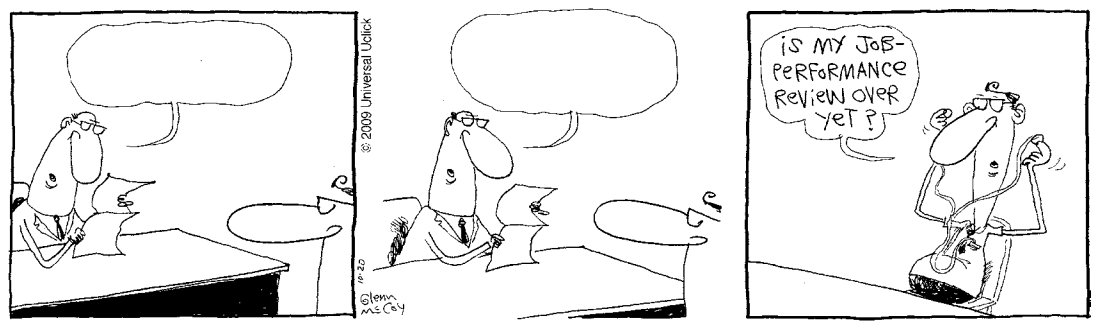
The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Help in wrongdoing
5 Resort
8 Put together
12 Exceptional
13 Greek cross
14 Acknowledge
15 Dogged determination
16 Make clutter-free
18 Grove
20 Mississippi, e.g.
21 Antlered animal
22 Have a bug
23 Yonder
26 Disney World site
30 Symbol of intrigue
31 Shade tree
32 "Alley —"
33 Circled the Earth
36 Criticizes cleverly
38 Solidify
39 Cod piece?
40 Nary a soul
43 Husband of Eurydice
47 Plain
49 Wheelbase terminus
50 Glaswegian, for one
51 Work with
52 Queue
53 Maneuverable, to an old salt
54 In favor of
55 Airport schedule data (Abbr.)

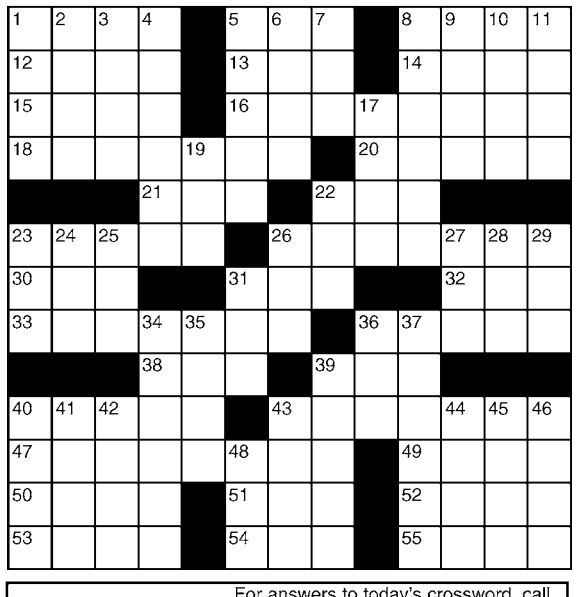
DOWN

1 Jason's ship
2 Roseanne of comedy
3 Leif's father
4 Leash
5 Baby bird?
6 Crony, out West
7 Summertime abbr.
8 Envelope material
9 Tel —
10 Take a nap
11 Basin accessory
17 Seed covering
19 Pub order
22 Branch
23 Pair
24 That girl
25 Recede
26 Antiquated
27 "Smoking or —?"
28 Pooch
29 Chances, for short
31 Slithery swimmer
34 Set afire
35 Adolescent
36 Energy
37 Admit oxygen
39 Deep-fat device
40 Inquisitive
41 Killer whale
42 Smell
43 Approximately
44 Way out
45 Radius' neighbor
46 Witnesses
48 "— Wiedersehen"

Solution time: 21 mins.

C	A	P	T	■	C	A	M	■	A	G	E	D
A	M	E	R	■	A	L	E	■	L	O	N	E
S	A	R	I	■	C	A	S	H	F	L	O	W
S	H	I	L	O	H	■	H	A	R	D	L	Y
■	■	■	B	R	A	C	■	P	E	R	■	■
B	O	D	Y	B	L	O	W	■	D	U	L	L
A	N	I	■	S	O	D	A	S	■	S	E	A
H	O	S	T	■	T	A	L	K	S	H	O	W
■	■	L	E	T	■	S	L	I	T	■	■	■
H	O	O	P	O	E	■	O	P	E	N	E	D
U	N	D	E	R	T	O	W	■	P	A	L	E
G	A	G	E	■	A	V	E	■	P	I	L	L
O	N	E	S	■	S	A	D	■	E	L	S	E

Yesterday's answer 10-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Snoop Dogg, 38; Arthel Neville, 47; Viggo Mortensen, 51; Tom Petty, 59

Happy Birthday: Your sophisticated intelligence will lead you down the right path and, although others may think you are giving in, you will, in fact, be getting your way. A change of location or surroundings will do you good. Getting involved with someone secretively will help you accomplish what you set out to do. Once you have everything in place, you can make your plans known. Your numbers are 3, 15, 19, 25, 32, 37, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Observe what's really going on around you. You may be the one who has the change of heart regarding a friendship or partnership. Someone is looking out for your interests, not trying to diminish the pursuit of your goals. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You can't stop when you are so close to reaching your goal. If you work for a cause you believe in, you will expand your professional connections. You'll make a better impression if you can stay within a budget. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't count on someone else to do what you are supposed to do yourself. An unexpected change will lead to uncertainty about your position in a group you belong to. Love and romance are on the rise and can lead to an entertaining evening. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't look too far ahead when it's what you do now that counts. Someone may try to alter your opinion or direction to suit his or her own needs. Be careful not to give in to something you don't really want to do. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take on a challenge that will enable you to show off what you have to offer. A change at home may not be what you expect but it will allow you to see what needs to be done. Don't overreact. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take an out-of-the-ordinary approach and you will draw attention and suggestions that will help your cause. A work relationship with someone innovative will develop if you are open to the concepts being presented. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You may meet with opposition at home but, when it comes to your friends and the organizations you belong to, you will be looked up to. Perhaps you can learn from outsiders how to better deal with personal matters. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Step up and make a decision. Waffling will make you look bad. You have to make choices if you want to achieve your goals. Action is required in order to win the confidence of others. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll be the driving force and the one who brings everyone and everything together. Your dedication and determination will be magnified. Competitive challenges will motivate you to be the best at whatever you do. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You can make a workable arrangement if you communicate with people who have something to bring to the table. Recognize that you cannot do everything on your own. That doesn't mean that you have to give up being the leader. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Follow your own path. You have some good ideas that can be turned into a profitable venture. An unexpected turn of events may stop you in your tracks but, if you keep moving, you will realize what has occurred is beneficial. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Take a much-needed break. Taking time out will allow you to put things in perspective and to realize what will work best for you. Socializing with people who inspire you will lead to innovative ideas. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are outgoing and have vision and perception. You have confidence and are a leader.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

6								4
		7	2		1	3		
	3		9		7		1	
	4	3				7	5	
	2	5				9	8	
	5		6		3		9	
		1	5		4	6		
9								7

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

8	1	9	3	2	5	7	6	4
3	6	7	9	4	8	2	5	1
5	2	4	6	7	1	9	8	3
7	4	1	5	6	2	3	9	8
9	3	6	1	8	7	4	2	5
2	8	5	4	3	9	6	1	7
1	7	2	8	9	3	5	4	6
4	5	3	2	1	6	8	7	9
6	9	8	7	5	4	1	3	2

Difficulty Level ★ 10/19

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

6-SPEED TRANSMISSIONS **Solution: 8 letters**

S	Y	S	T	E	M	R	E	H	T	O	O	M	S	C
T	T	H	H	M	D	A	E	N	I	G	N	E	O	H
R	R	G	C	A	O	E	N	E	R	G	Y	N	P	A
E	O	U	N	N	F	T	S	A	R	Y	F	H	H	N
N	P	L	C	I	U	T	I	I	G	I	F	A	I	G
G	S	L	E	K	C	A	P	O	G	E	O	N	S	E
T	V	E	(G)	U	S	A	L	U	N	N	R	C	T	L
H	O	P	(E)	R	F	O	R	M	A	N	C	E	I	I
D	P	O	(A)	E	N	A	T	H	T	L	E	M	C	B
E	E	R	(R)	H	T	H	S	R	C	S	O	E	A	O
L	R	P	C	I	R	H	E	T	O	T	E	N	T	M
I	A	E	O	U	I	W	C	I	E	F	U	T	E	O
V	T	N	S	F	O	U	P	P	E	R	M	L	D	T
E	E	T	T	P	T	Y	Y	N	A	P	M	O	C	U
R	E	E	T	S	E	I	R	O	S	S	E	C	C	A

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Yesterday's Answer: Vibration

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The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA), a non-profit organization is currently recruiting an Executive Director (ED). The ED will be responsible for setting goals, budgeting, grant writing, fundraising, project implementation, and building a strong, integrated conservation program. Detailed job description and application process can be found at www.minapacific.org under the "Job Opportunities" link. For more information, contact MINA at mina@minapacific.org, or call (670) 233-7333.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

COO COO COO
COO PURR COO
COO COO COO

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Fitial says decision to end Aggreko 'far from certain'
CUC emergency extended anew
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9 percent drop in foreign investors
INSIDE
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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Lee dominates Dodgers, Phillies romp for 2-1 lead

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Cliff Lee sprinted off the mound after throwing his final pitch, nearly breaking a sweat for the first time. Heck, he almost outhustled the Phillies' newest speed demon, Ryan Howard.

With their ace and slugger leading the way, the defending World Series champions got back their swagger.

Lee dominated the Dodgers, Howard and Jayson Werth provided the big swings early and Philadelphia cruised past Los Angeles 11-0 Sunday night for a 2-1 lead in the NL championship series.

"We expect to win when we come to the ballpark, and that's kind of who they are," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said.

Lee provided another brilliant playoff start, striking out 10 and allowing only three hits in eight innings.

"Cliff Lee, what can I say about him? He was absolutely outstanding," Manuel said.

Howard ran hard for a triple, Werth homered and the Phillies led 6-0 by the second inning. Howard made two headfirst dives during the romp—the All-Star first baseman has an RBI in all seven of Philadelphia's playoff games this year, a record streak in a single postseason.

"He's a big-game player," Werth said. "We've got a lot of guys like that here, guys that thrive in big situations."

The Phillies came up with the most-lopsided win in their postseason history. Joe Blanton starts Game 4 Monday night against Randy Wolf, who hasn't pitched since the opener of the division series against St. Louis.

"You never want to get your rear end kicked," Dodgers manager Joe Torre said. "But you don't toss and turn and wonder if you made the right move. It's still only one game and we're in position to tie the series tomorrow."

The next two games in the best-of-seven series are set for Citizens Bank Park.

Howard had three RBIs, including his two-run triple in the first. Werth followed that with a two-run homer, and that was more than enough for Lee.

The reigning AL Cy Young Award winner faced just two batters over the minimum. Lee gave up a pair of singles to Manny Ramirez and one to Ronnie Belliard.

Manuel planned to send Lee out for the ninth until he hit a single in the eighth and scored on Shane Victorino's three-run homer. Chad Durbin relieved to begin the ninth and pitched a perfect inning.

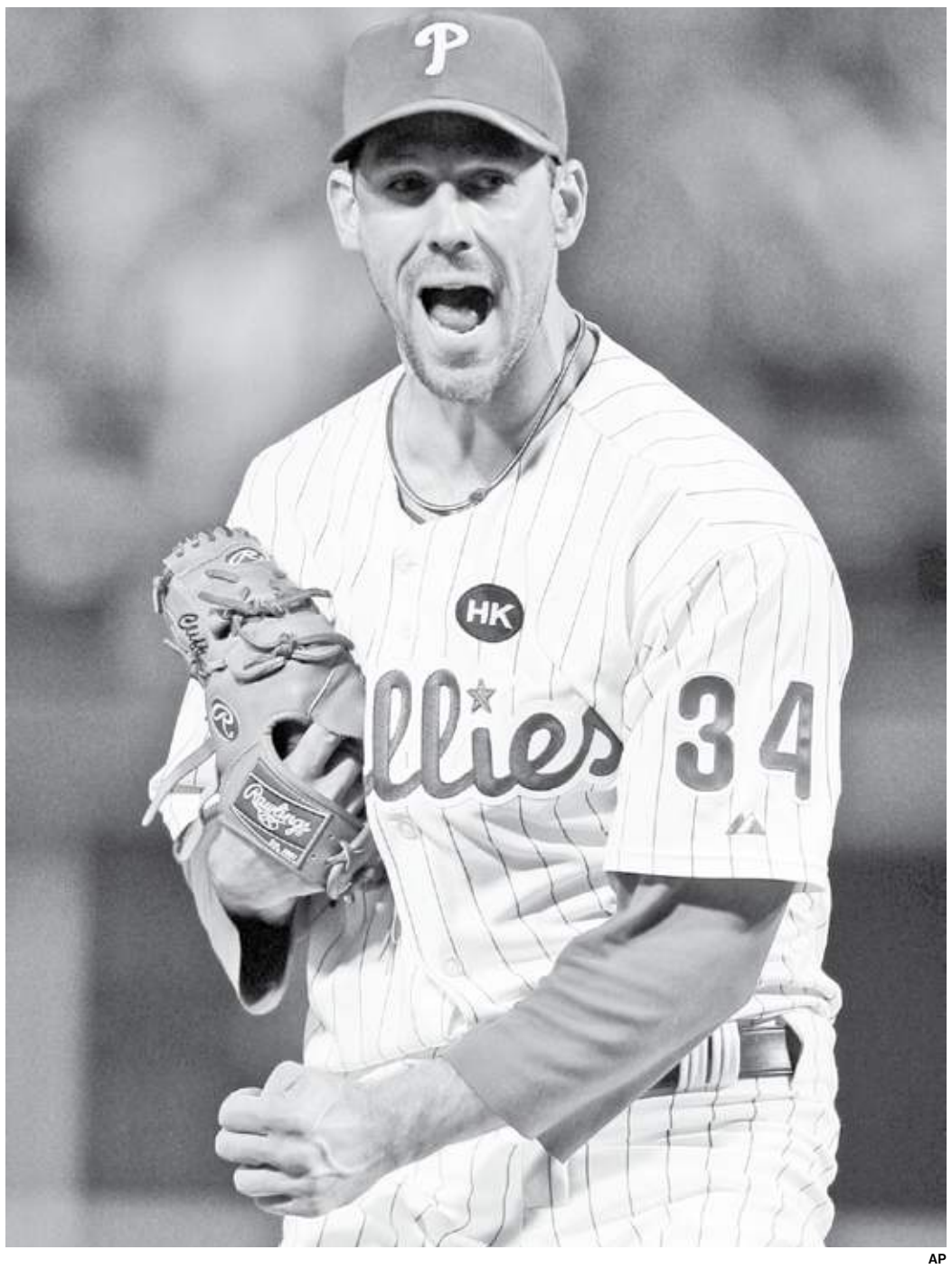
Lee is 2-0 with an 0.74 ERA in three postseason starts, giving the Phillies exactly what they expected when they acquired him from Cleveland in late July.

"I don't know if I ever doubted myself," Lee said. "I always had confidence in myself."

After wasting a brilliant performance by Pedro Martinez in Game 2, the Phillies jumped on Dodgers starter Hiroki Kuroda right from the start.

On a brisk 46-degree night—almost half the temperature at Dodger Stadium for Game 3 Friday—Philadelphia's hitters had no trouble swinging hot bats. Every starter except Raul Ibanez had a hit and all nine starters scored a run.

Victorino's home run to deep right field put an emphatic exclamation mark on the rout. The shot also let Phillies outscore the city's NFL team—the Eagles lost 13-9 to the Oakland Raiders.



AP

Philadelphia Phillies starting pitcher Cliff Lee reacts after striking out Los Angeles Dodgers' Russell Martin to end the top of the eighth inning of Game 3 in the National League Championship baseball series Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009, in Philadelphia.

Making his first start in 20 days, Kuroda only got four outs. He allowed six runs and six hits. Dodgers manager Joe Torre chose Kuroda over Chad Billingsley even though Kuroda was unavailable for the first-round series against St. Louis because of a herniation in his cervical spine.

"They put me on the mound and I have to come through, but I didn't," Kuroda said through a translator.

A sellout crowd of 45,721 made Kuroda uncomfortable from the start. Fans waved their "Fightin' Phils" rally towels and chanted "Beat LA! Beat LA!" even before the first pitch was thrown.

Ramirez got an earful, too. Fans screamed "You took steroids!" before he struck out in the seventh inning.

Victorino, who exchanged words with Kuroda in the NLCS last year after a fastball buzzed his head, got things started in the first. Victorino singled with one out and stole second. Chase Utley followed with a single. Howard then ripped a liner into the right-field corner to score both runners. The 255-pound slugger chugged around the bases and dove headfirst into the third for his first career postseason triple.

"It was one of those things where I had to make up my mind," Howard said. "Once I hit second, I was going for it."

Werth made it 4-0 with a long drive that landed in the shrubs in almost straightaway center.

Carlos Ruiz started the second with a double and scored on Jimmy Rollins' one-out double that chased Kuroda. Scott Elbert came in and walked Victorino and Utley. Howard's RBI dribbler put the Phillies up 6-0. Howard slid headfirst into first on that play, too, trying to avoid the tag.

When the Phillies were in the field, all eyes were on Utley after he committed two costly throwing errors on double-play balls in the first two games. Utley bounced his first throw to first base, but Howard made the scoop. But he made a couple routine throws later and drew some cheers.

Down 0-2, Angels counting on California comeback

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Torii Hunter grabbed his hat, tied his spikes and headed out of Los Angeles' home clubhouse into the abundant sunshine and cool breezes of Angel Stadium.

"Now I can work on my tan again," the Angels' unofficial captain said with a grin Sunday.

His Angels are undeniably in trouble after two nights of horrible weather and messier baseball in New York, where the Yankees took a 2-0 lead over their error-prone opponents in the AL championship series.

Yet the Angels say they're far from finished going into Game 3 Monday, insisting they can warm back up with the fundamentally sound play that got them here after a difficult season.

"We've got to calm it down and have some fun," Hunter said. "You've got to have amnesia, and you've got to let the past go. ... (Against the Yankees) you can try to play too much. You can let that history get in your mind, and their payroll, and you really try to do too much. We have to block that out and play our game."

If the Angels don't quickly reclaim that California cool, the Yankees could be headed to the World Series by Tuesday night.

On an afternoon expected to feature near-perfect baseball weather, New York's Andy Pettitte will attempt to win his major league-record 16th postseason game against Jered Weaver, specifically chosen for this start by Angels manager Mike Scioscia because of the southern California native's prowess at home.

"We know this thing can turn in a heartbeat," Scioscia said. "If we win Game 3, we've got a different vibe in this series, and that's what you want to create."

The teams definitely earned a relaxing day in the Orange County sun after their 13-inning, 310-minute epic on Saturday night, won 4-3 by the Yankees on the final defensive mistake in a two-game set full of miscues by the normally sure-handed Angels.

New York canceled its scheduled Sunday workout in Anaheim, while the Angels gathered for a bit of hitting and jogging, more to reset their minds than their bodies after a weekend of temperatures in the 40s amid blowing rain.

"I think we did a pretty good job at our ballpark in those conditions," Yankees outfielder Johnny Damon said. "The conditions (in Anaheim) are definitely going to be a little bit more favorable for both teams to actually try to perform a bit better. The bones won't be aching as much, and the body will be able to move around a bit quicker."

Second baseman Maicer Izturis' wild throw on an attempt to turn a double play on a tough grounder allowed Jerry Hairston Jr. to score the winning run and left the Angels in an 0-2 playoff hole—a jam they've never escaped in their postseason history.

Although the overeager Izturis—a defensive whiz during the season—took the most heat, he was hardly the Angels' only goat in Game 2.

Closer Brian Fuentes has made just one tangible mistake in the postseason, but Alex Rodriguez stuck that high fastball into the right field stands for a tying homer in the 11th. When Hunter saw the pitch called for A-Rod from his perch in center field, the thought of calling a timeout briefly flashed through his mind.

"I saw the (signal for) fastball, I saw (catcher Jeff Mathis') glove go up, and I was like, 'Noooooooo!'" Hunter said. "That's why he's one of the best hitters in the game, though."

Hunter also wasted a chance to increase the Angels' 11th-inning lead with an inning-ending, double-play grounder after Chone Figgins' go-ahead RBI.

Then there's Vladimir Guerrero, the Angels' formerly feared cleanup hitter, who struck out twice with the bases loaded in New York and stranded eight runners in Game 2. The slugger wears a blue Superman T-shirt while lounging in the Angels' clubhouse before most games, but it appears to be fading—and so do his once-superhuman skills.

Despite his clutch hit to finish off Boston in the division series, Guerrero's statistics and timely hits have declined considerably in the final year of his contract with Los Angeles. Yet Scioscia defiantly keeps Guerrero in the cleanup spot ahead of Kendry Morales or Juan Rivera despite a soft 6-for-21 playoff performance that includes only two RBIs—both on that go-ahead hit against the Red Sox.

"I have confidence in Vlad," Hunter said. "If it weren't for Vlad, we probably wouldn't be where we are. Just his name and his history alone helps us, making pitchers think about the game differently."

And though the fielding miscues were the Angels' most glaring shortcomings in the Bronx, their dismal hitting hurt them even more. The Angels batted .154 and had just 12 hits in the first two games' 22 innings, including just four extra-base hits—all doubles—for a measly .205 slugging percentage.

Los Angeles didn't rely on homers during its tremendously productive regular season, instead creating runs through multiple-hit rallies and heads-up baserunning, but a couple of shots could ease the burden of having to grind out runs to match New York's lineup of big boppers.

The Yankees' rotation isn't deep, but it's been dominant. Their three starting pitchers have a 1.62 ERA over the first five postseason games, and Game 3 starter Andy Pettitte allowed just one run while tying John Smoltz for the major league record with his 15th postseason victory in the division series clincher against Minnesota.

Brady, Patriots get historic 59-0 win over Titans

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—This was the history-making Tom Brady everyone remembers.

And those were the hapless Tennessee Titans fans are beginning to expect.

Brady threw six touchdown passes—five in one quarter, an NFL mark—and the Patriots sent the Titans plummeting to a new low in their winless season with a 59-0 win on a snowy Sunday.

Brady threw those five passes in the second quarter and the Patriots built the biggest halftime lead in league history, 45-0. The six touchdown throws tied Brady's own Patriots record. And the 59-point margin matched the largest since the NFL-AFL merger in 1970, the Los Angeles Rams' 59-0 win over the Atlanta Falcons in 1976.

"Every week we're learning something more about ourselves and what we can do," Brady said. "There's no doubt a game like this can give you a lot of confidence."

The Patriots (4-2) gained a club-record 619 yards, with Brady completing 29 of 34 passes for 380 yards and matching the number of scoring passes he totaled in his first five games. In 2007, he set an NFL record with 50 touchdown passes and was the league's MVP.

Sunday's performance was, by far, his best of an inconsistent comeback year after a knee injury ended his 2008 season in the opener.

"Back to his old self," said Wes Welker, who caught 10 passes for a career-high 150 yards and two touchdowns.

It was the worst game in what has become an increasingly terrible season for the Titans (0-6), who have lost their last three by 20, 22 and 59 points after posting the NFL's best record, 13-3, last year.

They took their worst loss since they began play in 1960 as the Houston Oilers, eclipsing the 61-7 setback to Cincinnati in 1989. They won their first 10 games last season.

"I don't think anybody in this league is 59 points better than us," tight end Bo Scaife said. "This is the worst it gets."

The white-and-powder-blue throwback uniforms the Titans wore to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the AFL may have been the only resemblance to that team that won that league's inaugural championship.

"I'm disappointed and embarrassed," Tennessee coach Jeff Fisher said. "Fortunately for me, career-wise, I have never been through anything like this before and, unfortunately, it happened tonight. I can assure you one thing, it's not going to happen again."

The Titans couldn't even stop New England when Brian Hoyer, a free agent rookie from Michigan State, took over for Brady on the second series of the third quarter with the score 52-0. He completed 9 of 11 passes for 52 yards in his pro debut and scored on a 1-yard run on his first series.

By that time, the wide empty spaces in the snow-covered stands matched the huge gaps in the Titans' defense that played without injured starting cornerbacks Cortland Finnegan and Nick Harper. Rookies started in their spots.

"You never go into a game thinking it's going to be like this," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said. "It's just our day today."

Their longest play this season had covered 36 yards, but they led 10-0 after one quarter on a 45-yard run by Laurence Maroney and a 33-yard field goal by Stephen Gostkowski.

Then came Brady's historic second quarter: touchdown passes to Randy Moss of 40 and 28 yards, to Kevin Faulk of 38 yards, and to Welker of 30 and 5 yards.

"I saw frustration, but not a lack of effort," Fisher said.

Titans defensive end Kyle Vanden Bosch said the footing as the snow fell throughout the game but left just a light coating on the field was "no good." Brady disagreed: "We had good footing and it was fun to be a part of it."

Brady came back for the first series of the third quarter and threw a 9-yard scoring pass to Moss. Then Hoyer took over and scored on a 12-play, 61-yard drive that lasted 7:42.

"I know the score got out of hand," Belichick said, "but we were just trying to run our offense."

The Patriots missed the largest margin of victory since the NFL began in 1920. The Rochester Jeffersons won 66-0 over Fort Porter, a non-league opponent, in the second week that season.

Now the Titans have a bye week to regroup. The Patriots play next Sunday in London against another winless team, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

In one 17-play stretch in the second quarter, the Titans gave up three scoring passes, lost two fumbles and an interception and even had a roughing-the-passer penalty on one of those touchdowns. One positive note: Kerry Collins threw his only completion of the first half in that miserable span.

He completed only 2 of 12 passes for minus-7 yards. Vince Young replaced him after Hoyer's touchdown and threw an interception, one of five Tennessee turnovers, on his first play. His only other pass was an incompletion.

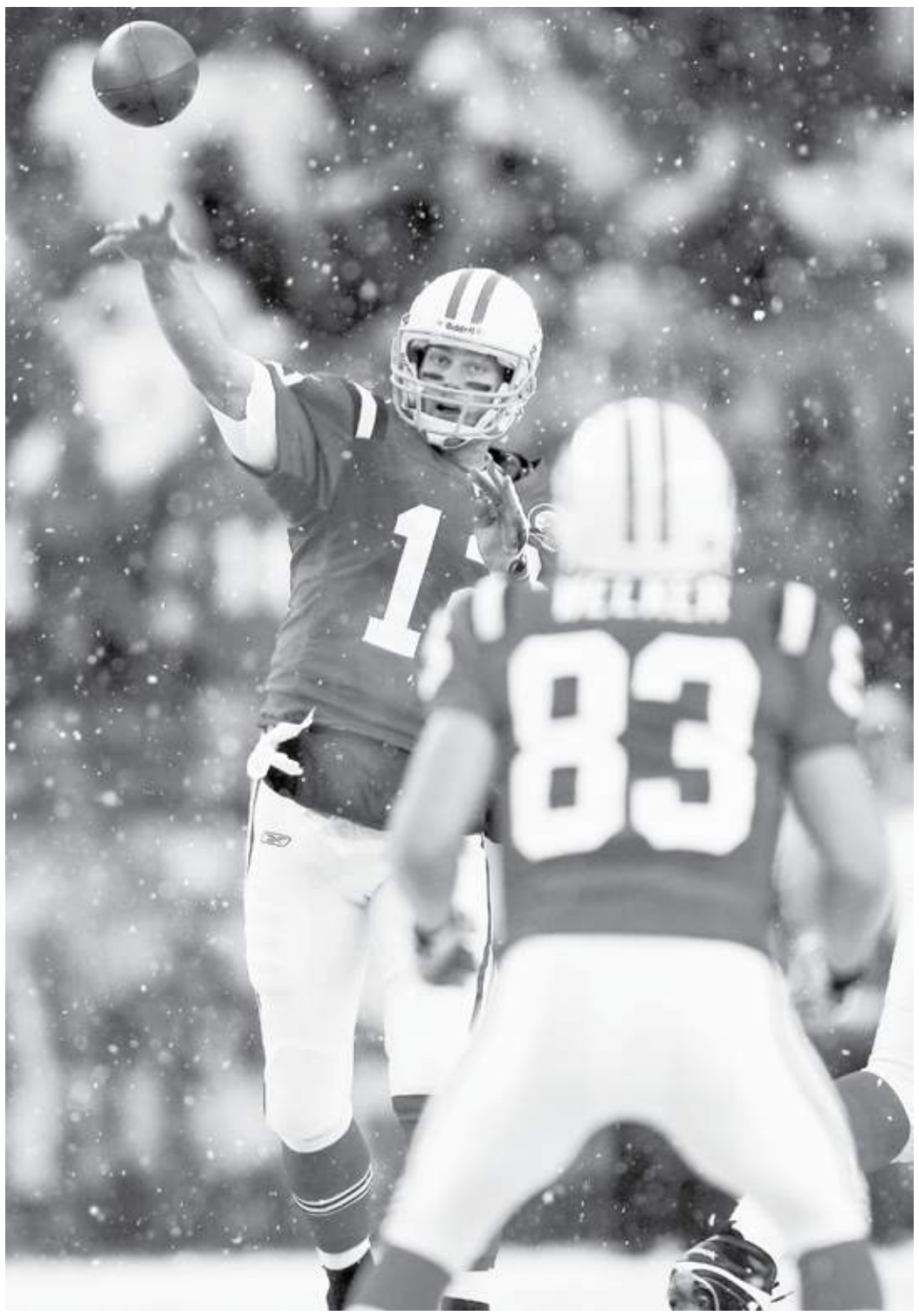
To make the collapse a complete team effort, Reggie Hodges shanked a 21-yard punt late in the second quarter.

Tennessee's defense was so bad that New England didn't punt until 4:13 remained in the game.

A rare bright spot for Tennessee was Chris Johnson, who entered as the NFL's third leading rusher. He ran for 128 of the Titans' total of 186 overall.

But that was overshadowed by all the misfires, mistakes and missed assignments.

"I've been playing sports since I was 8," Titans linebacker Keith Bulluck said, "and never have I experienced something like that."



AP

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady throws to wide receiver Wes Welker during the first quarter of their 59-0 win over the Tennessee Titans in a NFL football game at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Mass. Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009.

Vikings 33, Ravens 31

At Minneapolis, Brett Favre's 58-yard completion to Sidney Rice set up Ryan Longwell's fourth field goal, and Baltimore's Steve Hauschka missed a 44-yard field goal as time expired, allowing Minnesota to remain undefeated.

Favre threw for 278 yards and three touchdowns, but the Vikings nearly blew this one when they let the Ravens erase a 17-point deficit with 10 minutes to play.

Saints 48, Giants 27

At New Orleans, Drew Brees ended his two-game streak without a touchdown throw by completing 23 of 30 passes for 369 yards and four scores Sunday as New Orleans remained unbeaten.

Eli Manning was 14 of 31 for 178 yards. He lost his cool at least once, yelling at Ahmad Bradshaw and slapping his shoulder pad after the running back's lapse in protection precipitated a rushed throw that Jabari Greer intercepted early in the third quarter, stalling a promising drive.

Panthers 28, Buccaneers 21

At Tampa, Florida, DeAngelo Williams gained a season-best 152 yards on 30 carries and scored twice, including the winning TD with 29 seconds left.

Carolina squandered a 21-7 lead, giving up a 97-yard kickoff return for a touchdown in the third quarter and watching Tampa Bay pull level.

Texans 28, Bengals 17

At Cincinnati, Matt Schaub equaled his career high with four TD passes—two to tight end Owen Daniels—as Houston pulled away to deny the Bengals another shot at a late comeback win.

The Bengals had won three straight games in the last 22 seconds.

Steelers 27, Browns 14

At Pittsburgh, Ben Roethlisberger threw two touchdown passes as the Steelers beat rival Cleveland for the 12th time in a row.

Roethlisberger, second in the league in passing and on pace for what would easily be the best statistical season of his career, was 23 of 35 for 417 yards in his second career 400-yard game. He threw for 433 during a 31-20 loss to Denver in 2006.

Raiders 13, Eagles 9

At Oakland, California, Louis Murphy made two key blocks to spring Zach Miller's 86-yard touchdown catch, and Justin Fargas ran for 87 yards as Oakland's defense harassed Donovan McNabb all day.

The result was one of the more shocking ones so far this season as the Raiders had lost three straight games by at least 20 points for the first time in franchise history, while the Eagles were second in the league in points per game.

Cardinals 27, Seahawks 3

At Seattle, Arizona moved into a share of the National Football Conference West lead as Warner completed 32 of 41 passes for 276 yards and two touchdowns.

Kurt Warner tied an NFL record for being the fastest to throw for 30,000 yards in a career and Larry Fitzgerald tied his career high with 13 receptions for 100 yards and a touchdown.

Bills 16, Jets 13, OT

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, Rian Lindell kicked a 47-yard field goal with 2:44 left in overtime, making up for a miss at the end of regulation.

The Bills (2-4) took advantage of Mark Sanchez's fifth interception of the day to snap a three-game losing streak, and send the sputtering Jets (3-3) to their third straight loss.

Falcons 21, Bears 14

At Atlanta, Michael Turner scored the go-ahead touchdown on an otherwise forgettable night, powering over from 5 yards with 3:06 remaining, and the defense held at the end to preserve an Atlanta victory.

Matt Ryan threw two touchdown passes for the Falcons (4-1), who matched the best five-game start in franchise history.

Packers 26, Lions 0

At Green Bay, Wisconsin, Aaron Rodgers got sacked five times but still managed to have a big day against Detroit's defense, throwing for 358 yards with two touchdowns and an interception.

Donald Driver became the franchise's career receptions leader with a first-quarter catch and rookie outside linebacker Clay Matthews III had two sacks as the Packers (3-2) turned in a dominant defensive effort against an undermanned Lions offense.

Chiefs 14, Redskins 6

At Landover, Maryland, Ryan Succop's four field goals, including the go-ahead 46-yarder with 3:36 to play, plus a last-minute safety were all the Chiefs needed.

They earned rookie coach Todd Haley his first win and Jim Zorn another week of extreme questioning about the future of his job and the Washington franchise.

Jaguars 23, Rams 20, OT

At Jacksonville, Florida, Torry Holt had 101 yards receiving in his first game against his former team, Maurice Jones-Drew ran for 133 yards and three touchdowns and Jacksonville won in overtime.

Josh Scobee provided the winner, a 36-yard field goal with 8 minutes to play in the extra frame.

Brazil vows safe Olympics after 14 killed in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—At least 2,000 police officers patrolled this coastal city Sunday and Brazilian officials pledged to host a violence-free 2016 Olympics despite bloody drug gang shootouts that left 14 people dead.

An hours long firefight between rival gangs Saturday in one of the city's slums killed at least 12 people, injured six and saw a police helicopter shot down and eight buses set on fire.

Police said Sunday that they killed two other suspected drug traffickers in overnight clashes near the Morro dos Macacos ("Monkey Hill") slum where the gangs fought for territory a day earlier. But the area was largely peaceful.

Two officers died and four were injured Saturday when bullets from the gang battle ripped into their helicopter hovering overhead, forcing it into a fiery crash landing on a soccer field. Officials said they did not know if the gangs targeted the helicopter or it was hit by stray bullets.

Gunfire on the ground killed 10 suspected gunmen and wounded two bystanders.

Authorities said the violence only toughened their resolve to improve security ahead of the Olympics and before 2014, when Brazil will host the World Cup soccer tournament with key games in Rio, the country's second-biggest city.

AP

A woman and a child walk by police officers at the Jacarezinho slum, in Rio de Janeiro, Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009.

Rio state Public Safety Director Jose Beltrame told reporters that the violence was limited to a specific area of the city of 6 million and "is not a problem throughout all of Rio de Janeiro."

He said authorities will follow through with promised efforts to reduce crime.

"We proved to the Olympic Committee that we have plans and proposals for Rio de Janeiro," Beltrame said. "We proved that our current policy not only consists of going into battle, it also consists of keeping the peace."

Rio state Gov. Sergio Cabral said earlier that the city's security challenges can't be cured "by magic in the short term." But money is being poured into programs to reduce crime and authorities are prepared to mount an overwhelming security presence at the sporting events to ensure safety, he said.

Saturday's fighting raged about five miles (eight kilometers) southwest of one of the zones where Rio's 2016 Olympics will be held.

It was on Oct. 2 that the city was chosen over Chicago, Madrid and Tokyo to host the games. Rio alone among the bid cities was highlighted for questions about security ahead of the vote by the International Olympic Committee.

Rio is one of the world's most dangerous cities. Although violence is mostly contained within its sprawling shantytowns, it sometimes spills into posh beach neighborhoods and periodically shuts down a highway linking the international airport to tourist destinations.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has played down the threat of violence for the Olympics, saying Rio has repeatedly demonstrated it can put on big events without risks to participants. The Pan-American Games in 2007 were held without major incidents after authorities deployed 15,000 specially trained officers.

More lasting change is needed now to protect Rio's citizens, said 83-year-old Maria Jose Gonzaga, who awoke to gunfire Saturday near the violence zone and cowered at home for hours until it finally ended.

"As soon as Saturday began, they started shooting at each other," Gonzaga said. "It was very intense, very awful indeed."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	4	2	0	.667	163	91
N.Y. Jets	3	3	0	.500	114	104
Miami	2	3	0	.400	112	106
Buffalo	2	4	0	.333	93	129
South						
Indianapolis	5	0	0	1.000	137	71
Jacksonville	3	3	0	.500	120	147
Houston	3	3	0	.500	143	137
Tennessee	0	6	0	.000	84	198
North						
Cincinnati	4	2	0	.667	118	118
Pittsburgh	4	2	0	.667	140	112
Baltimore	3	3	0	.500	169	130
Cleveland	1	5	0	.167	69	148
West						
Denver	5	0	0	1.000	99	43
San Diego	2	2	0	.500	101	102
Oakland	2	4	0	.333	62	139
Kansas City	1	5	0	.167	98	144

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	5	1	0	.833	178	119
Dallas	3	2	0	.600	122	98
Philadelphia	3	2	0	.600	136	99
Washington	2	4	0	.333	79	96
South						
New Orleans	5	0	0	1.000	192	93
Atlanta	4	1	0	.800	123	77
Carolina	2	3	0	.400	85	125
Tampa Bay	0	6	0	.000	89	168
North						
Minnesota	6	0	0	1.000	189	121
Green Bay	3	2	0	.600	130	93
Chicago	3	2	0	.600	119	99
Detroit	1	5	0	.167	103	188
West						
San Francisco	3	2	0	.600	112	98
Arizona	3	2	0	.600	112	92
Seattle	2	4	0	.333	118	109
St. Louis	0	6	0	.000	54	169

Yesterday's Games

Green Bay 26, Detroit 0
New Orleans 48, N.Y. Giants 27
Pittsburgh 27, Cleveland 14
Houston 28, Cincinnati 17
Kansas City 14, Washington 6
Carolina 28, Tampa Bay 21
Jacksonville 23, St. Louis 20, OT
Minnesota 33, Baltimore 31
Arizona 27, Seattle 3
Oakland 13, Philadelphia 9
Buffalo 16, N.Y. Jets 13, OT
New England 59, Tennessee 0
Atlanta 21, Chicago 14

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAMIKO

From Page 28

Kabiriel crossed the finish line at the 1:31:46 mark to finish third behind the Philippines' Pepito Deapara (1:17:25) and Japan's Shingo Bamba (1:25:13).

Kabiriel, who has a personal best time of 1:29:16 posted during the Gold Coast Airport Half Marathon in Gold, Coast, Australia in August this year, finished 20th overall. He joined the half marathon event a day after successfully defending his title in the 9th Annual Saipan International School 5K Fun Run. Kabiriel timed in at 19:41 in the 5k fun run on Saturday.

Mancao submitted 1:37:05 in the race that started and ended at the Gov. Joseph Flores Memorial Park (Ypao Beach Park) to place 33rd overall and 14th in the open division.

Joshua Berger participated in the senior division and was in the top half of the finishers list, timing in at 2:10:05 (194th).

Guam and Japanese runners were the biggest winners in the race that aims not only to attract off-island runners, but also to promote awareness on the plight of the Guam Rail or Ko'ko' bird. The Ko'ko' is a flightless bird common in Guam, but it is near extinction due to the brown tree snakes, pesticides and other predators.

Guam's Derek Mandell ruled the men's open division and set a new course record of 1:16:43. Japan's Hitomi Koike won the women's open division after timing in at 1:24:05, which is also a new course mark.

Besides the individual half marathon, organizers also held relay races in corporate, military, school, mixed, male, and female divisions. The relay involved four runners per team, consisting of legs of 5.38 km for the first runner, 5.15 km for the second and third, and 5.41 km for the fourth.

HAWLEY

From Page 28

the men's division were Florian Braig (1:43:45), Ken Piersen (1:45:22), Kevin Carey (1:45:31.38), Rene Calage (1:45:31.72), and Federico Fernandez (1:45:32).

Mieko Carey was sixth overall in the road bike category, but was the first female finisher after clocking in at 1:39:22. She outraced last year's winner Kimiko Hasegawa (1:59:27) and Heather Kennedy (2:02:17).

Mieko Carey's time also shattered Hasegawa's 2008 record of 2:15:58. The pre-Hell of Marianas race is a good warm-up for Mieko Carey, who will be leaving Saipan for Hawaii on Thursday for the 2009 XTERRA World Championship.

Six other female bikers joined the road bike race. They were Melanie Daly ((2:07:47), Jackie Van Dam (2:17:09), Tina Goodwin (2:39:06), Betty Johnson (2:50:19), and Norma Ada (2:50:25)

In the mountain bike category, Gary Bandoja made it back-to-back after timing in at 1:47:14. He clocked in at 1:53:53 last year to beat Fernandez. This year, Bandoja defeated Anthony Aguilar ((1:47:16) and Mario Galang (1:52:22).

The Sunday race drew 85 riders with 48 of them joining the mountain bike division and 37 competing in the road race event.

The 50-km race had riders cruising along the airport road then heading to Isa Drive all the way up to Mt.Tapochao, going down to Achugao for the turning point at Aqua Resort Club. Bikers then went to American Memorial Park, headed to Beach Road, and then back to PIC.

The weekend race aimed to prepare riders for the 2009 Hell of Marianas Century Race, which will kick off on Dec. 5.

TSUNAMI

From Page 28

as prizes await them after the lesson. Kids who are not taking part in the lesson, but are interested in joining the fun event are welcome.

"The purpose of this event is not only to treat kids, but also to tell them how fun swimming," Tsunami Saipan coach Hiro Kimura said. "For those interested in the lesson, they have a good chance to learn skills in water safety. When they learn to swim, they can be of service to the community as they can save others lives."

Red Cross water safety instructors and lifeguards and veteran Tsunami Saipan swimmers will be conducting the lesson, which is based on American Red Cross Water Safety Program. The lesson involves easy-to-remember safety tips for pools, spas, water parks, lakes, rivers, and oceans, and basic strokes in swimming.

This fall's session will be the seventh edition of Tsunami Saipan and American Red Cross-sponsored swim lesson. In every session of the first six swim lessons, Tsunami Saipan and ARC managed to attract more than 50 swimmers. Some of these participants even made it to the Tsunami Saipan Team, according to Kimura.

"Kids who will graduate in the swim lesson and receive Level 3 certificate can join the team. Those in Level 1 will be placed in the Tsunami Saipan developmental class and they will train three times a week to improve their skills," Kimura said.

"In the future, I am hoping that graduates of the swim lesson will be able to represent the CNMI in different competitions," the Tsunami Saipan coach added.

Registration for the swim lesson will begin at 9:30am, while every session will run from 10am to 11am. The next four sessions are scheduled for Nov. 7, 14, 21, and 28.

Registration fee is $30 per swimmer. For families, second and succeeding members will only pay $25 registration fee. Certificates from ARC will be awarded only to those who will complete the five-session lesson.

To register or for more information, contact Yuko Kimura at 989-8425 or via e-mail at tsunamisaipan@yahoo.co.jp.

ROTARY

From Page 28

commitment from participating teams to comply with the uniform policy. Teams can play in incomplete uniform, but shirts should be of the same color. League organizers are also requiring players and coaches to follow the rules and regulations at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, including the no-betel nut chewing policy.

"Next year, we will be much strict with the implementation of these rules. The league will not start unless teams comply with the requirements and get their acts together as far as behaving on the court is concerned," Rangamar said.

"We would want to conduct the league in a professional manner and this will not happen if players and even coaches are not properly dressed and are violating rules at the gym," he added.

Rangamar also said coaches who will field teams in next year's caging will not be allowed to call the shots for their squads if they will not attend BANMI-sanctioned clinics.

BANMI has started a series of basketball and coaching clinic last week, but of the 12 coaches in the ongoing Rotary caging, only half of them are attending the seminar. The first session of the clinics two weeks ago had only three participants. After three sessions, the number grew, as the clinic has also attracted teachers/coaches from various schools on Saipan.

"Right now, we cannot sanction these coaches or require them to attend the clinic. However, starting next year, we will have the clinic as a requirement for the benefit of both the players and coaches," Rangamar said.

The series of clinics will continue today and will also have sessions on Thursday and Saturday. Three more sessions are scheduled for next week. The weekday sessions are held at the conference room of the Ada gym and run from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. Saturday sessions run from 9am to 5pm.

Participants must complete 23 hours of the clinic to earn a certification.

For more information, contact Rangamar at 664-25-02 or via email at eli_rang@yahoo.com.

2009 Saipan Tennis Challenge

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Level 1 beginners winners Grace and Eric Kim are joined by tournament organizer and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis instructor Pete Loyola.

Winners in the 2009 Saipan Tennis Challenge pose with their trophies and medals after the awards ceremony at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Level 1 open Top 4 placers pose for a group photo.

Level 3 winners, from left, champion Matthew Lopez, runner-up Sky Izuka, third placer Mikayla Lopez, and fourth finisher Joel Jang.

Peter Loyola, left, joins Level 2 winners Amami Sakano, Clayton Izuka, Kawang Jae, and Steven Goodwin, during the awards presentation.

From left, Level 4 champion Daniel Park poses with runners-up Carl Dela Cruz, Clay McCullough-Stearns, and Colin Ramsey.

Level 1 beginners winners Tony and Julie Kim pose with their father and mother, and organizer Peter Loyola.

Women's 3.0 singles champion Vickie Izuka, right, receives her trophy from organizer Peter Loyola.

Lucy Park, right, holds the Sportsmanship Award she shared with Amy Taylor.

Men'3 s.0 singles champion Dan Wollak, right, is joined by organizer Peter Loyola at the awards ceremony.

Brazil vows safe Olympics after 14 killed in Rio

At least 2,000 police officers patrolled this coastal city Sunday and Brazilian officials pledged to host a violence-free 2016 Olympics despite bloody drug gang shootouts that left 14 people dead. 26

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Lee dominates Dodgers, Phillies romp for 2-1 lead

Cliff Lee sprinted off the mound after throwing his final pitch, nearly breaking a sweat for the first time. Heck, he almost outhustled the Phillies' newest speed demon, Ryan Howard. 24

Mamiko wins in Guam Ko'ko' Race

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mamiko Oshima-Berger won her debut in the 2009 Guam Gatorade Ko'ko' Road Race after topping the women's sub-master division of the half marathon event last Sunday.

Berger completed the 20-kilometer race in one hour, 38 minutes, and 38 seconds to finish ahead of Japan's Fumiko Kobayashi (1:47:14) and Guam's Tamami Smith (1:47:17).

The two-time Saipan Marathon winner finished 38th overall among the 387 runners who competed in the fourth edition of the annual race. Though she failed to surpass her best time in half marathon (1:35:27/2008Banzai Half Marathon), Berger managed to eclipse her 2009 Banzai Off Road Half Marathon time of 1:46:17.

Besides Berger, three other Saipan runners competed in the weekend tournament. They were Mamiko's husband, Joshua, Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel, and Matthew Mancao.

Kabiriel was also entered in the sub-master division and finished in the Top 3. Nicknamed the "Road Runny Bunny,"

See MAMIKO on Page 26

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Mamiko Oshima-Berger, seen here heading to the finish line during the Banzai Memorial Half Marathon and 10K Fun Run in Marpi in September this year, joined Sunday's 2009 Guam Gatorade Ko'ko' Road Race and topped the women's sub-master event.

Hawley sets record in pre-Hell of Marianas race

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Nate Hawley missed the 2008 pre-Hell of Marianas race, but completed this year's 50-kilometer contest in record-breaking fashion.

Hawley completed the race that started and ended at Pacific Islands Club in one hour, 39 minutes, and 18.53 seconds, shattering the 1:44:47 Jazy Garcia recorded in 2008.

The men's road bike division winner was engaged in a down-to-the-wire finish against Ariel Garcia, who crossed the finish line in 1:39:19. PIC general manager Kieran Daly, who finished sixth last year, made it to the Top 3 after clocking in at 1:39:19.62.

Completing the Top 5 were Butch Sublemente, who was fourth, improving his 2008 time (1:48:52) to 1:39:19.90, and Lewie Tenorio. Tenorio, who was fourth last year with his time of 1:47:43, dropped to fifth, but broke his 2008 time after submitting 1:39:21.

Rounding out to Top 10 in

See HAWLEY on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Nate Hawley, seen here leading a group of cyclists heading down to Capital Hill, won the pre-Hell of Marianas 50-kilometer race on Sunday.

Tsunami Saipan, ARC resume swim lessons

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan will mark the resumption of its American Red Cross Swim Lessons with a themed first session on Oct. 31 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Dubbed "Happy Halloween Lesson," the first of the five-part swim lesson will not only provide participants with introductory lesson in swimming, but also entertainment and food.

Tsunami Saipan in cooperation with Marianas Resort and Spa will treat participants to chocolate fountain, ice cream, curry rice, and different drinks. These treats will be available at the food booth from 9:30am to 11:30am at affordable prizes. Participants are also encouraged to wear scary masks or other costumes fit for the event,

See TSUNAMI on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants and instructors in the Tsunami Saipan-American Red Cross Swim Lesson pose for a group photo after concluding the sixth edition of the clinic at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in June this year.

Rotary caging may resume next week

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League will remain grounded this week and teams interested in next year's edition of the 18-and-under caging are likely to face stricter rules.

Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands president Elias Rangamar, in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune*, said yesterday that games in the Rotary caging will still be on hold this week and they may re-open shop next week provided teams complete the league's requirements.

Since last week, BANMI is still waiting for some teams to pay the entrance fee and submit documents for proofs of eligibility. BANMI is also asking for

See ROTARY on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

G-Stars and Rollers 1 players battle for the rebound during their game in the Rotary caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.